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ARAB TIMES

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HH the Amir: visit Kuwait to fulfil financial commitment

KUWAIT yesterday approved payment of an unspecified sum to help support the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli occupied territories. Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashid told reporters.

Speaking after the weekly cabinet meeting, he said the contribution was part of financial commitments agreed by Arab states at their Algiers summit.

He declined to say how much had been approved or to whom the money would be paid.

The cabinet also discussed measures necessary to beef up the defence capabilities of the country. A defence appropriations bill was reviewed, but it was decided to study the bill further at the next cabinet meeting.

The cabinet was informed that HH the Amir has accepted an invitation to visit Pakistan, as early as possible.

Police on alert in Haryana, Punjab Sikh bomb kills fifteen

AMRITSAR, June 19, (Agencies): Sikh extremists threw a bomb into a crowd of people gathered to watch a popular Hindu epic on television today, killing 15 and injuring nearly 30 others, Indian news agencies reported.

Shortly after the bombing in the town of Kurukshetra in northern Haryana state, Sikh radicals struck in neighbouring Punjab. The state leader of a militant Hindu group, his bodyguard and an aide were shot to death.

In other acts of violence in Punjab, Sikh extremists allegedly shot and killed three police officers in two attacks in Punjab yesterday. They also were blamed for the death today of a Sikh farmer in central Punjab.

Alert

The killings raised to more than 1,325 the number of people killed in Punjab by extremists since the start of the year. At least 42 more deaths have been blamed on the militants in the adjoining states of Himachal Pradesh and Haryana.

The Sikh extremists have been waging a guerrilla war for an independent homeland in Punjab since 1982.

Police were put on alert in the states of Punjab and Haryana and in the federal capital at New Delhi to try to capture the attackers and to prevent any backlash violence.

Hindu militants called for a general strike in Punjab tomorrow to protest the slayings.

The bomb attack occurred in Kurukshetra as about 140 people gathered outside an electronics store in a local market to watch the television serial Ramayana, which depicts adventures of the Hindu deity Rama.

Several of the injured were reported in critical condition at local hospitals.

Haryana Chief Minister Devi Lal told a news conference the explosion killed 11 people instantly and wounded 34 others, four of whom later died.

Cordoned

He said the device was a "powerful" time bomb planted by Sikh extremists.

Police were rushed to the town and cordoned off main roads in hopes of catching the bombers, Press Trust of India said.

Kurukshetra is 85 kilometres (50 miles) south of the joint Punjab-Haryana state capital at Chandigarh.

The town is holy to Hindus because it was in Kurukshetra that Lord Krishna, an incarnation of one of Hindu's trinity of gods, gave a lecture on battling for righteousness.

It was the second bombing attack by Sikh extremists outside Punjab in less than a month.

On May 20, a series of bombs exploded in several buses in Himachal Pradesh state. At least 10 people died.

The last Sikh attack in Haryana, which is south of Punjab, came on May 8, when Sikh extremists attacked a Hindu wedding party. At least 14 people, including women and children, were killed and 26 were injured.

Shiv Sena

In Punjab, Rama Kant Jalota, President of the Hindu Shiv Sena was assassinated by Sikh radicals who overtook his car on the highway and opened fire, police said.

The attack occurred as Jalota was en route to Jalandhar, which is 140 kilometres (85 miles) northeast of Chandigarh.

The Shiv Sena was set up to protect Hindus and their religion.

Jalota's bodyguard and a Shiv Sena accountant also were killed, the police said. A second bodyguard was reported in serious condition with gunshot wounds.

Two bystanders were injured in the attack, police said.

As word of Jalota's death spread, a crowd converged on the highway but was talked out of any action to avenge his death.

Hindu leaders around the state appealed for calm.



Turgut Ozal, his injured right hand in a sling, sits happily at his ruling Motherland Party congress in Ankara, after he escaped an assassination attempt. (Reuter wirephoto)

Amir condemns attempt on Ozal's life Police probe assailant's links

ANKARA, June 19, (Agencies): Investigations into an attempt to assassinate Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal are focusing on possible links with an ultra-rightist group active before the 1980 military coup, security sources said today.

Turkish gunman Kartal Demirag, shot by police and seized after yesterday's attack, belonged to the Grey Wolves group blamed for many political killings in the late 1970s, they said.

Another former member of the group, Mehmet Ali Agca, shot and wounded Pope John Paul II in St. Peter's Square, Rome, in 1981. He is now in jail in Italy.

President Kenan Evren told reporters the assailant appeared to have received military training.

Training

"I could tell that by the way he rolled over. He had commando training because he moved himself when there was fire," said Evren.

"Such incidents ... will not be tolerated. We will continue with the democratic system. There is no other way. Different paths will take us to the precipice," Evren said.

Meanwhile HH the Amir of Kuwait today sent a cable to Evren condemning the assassination attempt.

The Amir sent another cable to Ozal congratulating him on his survival.

HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah also sent a cable to Ozal.

Suffered

Ozal, 60, was shot in the hand as he was addressing 5,000 members of his ruling Motherland Party and foreign diplomats. A second bullet just missed his head.

Officials said 15 other people suffered bullet wounds in the ensuing chaos and panic as police opened fire in an apparent attempt to restore calm.

Ozal, right arm in a sling, was greeted by rousing cheers when he returned today for the final day of the Motherland Party congress.

Officials said immediately after the shooting that Demirag had acted alone, but other reports and claims later emerged.

The mass-circulation daily Sabah said its Istanbul office received an anonymous telephone call that Ozal was shot as a protest at his contacts with Turkey's arch-rival, Greece.

The semi-official Anatolian (Continued on Page 2)

Arabs have not closed doors on US peace plan: Murphy

SANAA, June 19, (AP): US envoy Richard Murphy arrived today on the second stop of an eight-nation tour after expressing satisfaction in Saudi Arabia that the Arab summit conference of Algiers had "not closed doors" on the US peace plan for the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Referring to Israeli refusal to deal with the PLO at peace parleys, Murphy advised Israel that there could be no "workable" formula for negotiations if they refused to sit down with any Palestinians.

Murphy made his statements at the end of a three-day stay in Jeddah where he opened discussion with Arab leaders on the Middle East peacemaking process and the Gulf war at meetings with King Fahd and his Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal.

Problem

Saudi officials have only said that Murphy was to discuss the Middle East problem and the peace plan being pushed by US Secretary of State George Shultz in the light of the outcome of the recently-concluded Algiers summit.

Addressing reporters in Jeddah yesterday following his official talks, Murphy said that based on resolutions issued by the Algiers summit and on statements made by Arab leaders, the United States had concluded that the Shultz peace plan for an Arab-Israeli settlement had not been rejected by Arab states.

"From the American point of view, the most important result of the Arab summit was that it did not close doors" on the Shultz plan, said Murphy.

Murphy said that Arab leaders with whom Washington had talks were encouraging the United States to keep the Shultz plan going, but he did not name any. He conceded that the plan was "an outline ... not a complete plan on how to proceed in terms of a peace process."

"But there is no other ... outline of the table beside the Shultz initiative," he said.

He noted that Shultz "does not dictate to the Arabs, he does not dictate to the Israelis, what position they will bring to the table. He cannot. It would be foolish."

The Algiers summit ended by backing the six-month-old uprising of the 1.5 million inhabitants seeking to end the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. They also backed the PLO as the representative of the Palestinian people and an international conference as the forum for peace talks.

In reply to questions, Murphy said: "I know of no Israeli ... who would (talk to) the PLO leadership under the present circumstances."

He added: "It's not just Mr (Yitzhak) Shamir, it's not just Mr (Shimon) Peres, it's throughout the whole Israeli political spectrum with the exception perhaps of the small group called 'Peace Now' on the liberal side."

Protect

But he also said: "If the Israelis won't sit down with a certain Palestinian then it's not a workable realistic structure for negotiations."

Murphy acknowledged that the uprising had "created a new pride among the Palestinians and perhaps among Arabs generally."

On the Iraq-Iran war, Murphy reaffirmed that the United States was determined to protect US-flagged ships in the international waters of the Gulf, and to offer "distress assistance" to other non-belligerent ships that ask for it.

Murphy's swing will take him to Iraq and other member states of the GCC.

Algiers summit discussed peace efforts Shultz plan was not raised: Alawi

OMAN'S Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Youssef Bin Alawi said in an interview published yesterday in Kuwait that the American plan for Middle East peace was not raised at the Arab summit held recently in Algiers.

Alawi called for further consultations to develop any positive points in the US plan forwarded by Secretary of State George Shultz.

"I am not aware of anything presented to the summit called the Shultz plan. But the conference discussed the approaches to peace. The American role, however, cannot be separated from the general framework of peace," Alawi said in an interview with the newspaper Al Seyassah.

"If there are positive points (in the Shultz plan) they should be welcomed by Arab states, but there may be certain points which need more discussion, explanation and consultation," he added.

Alawi

The Omani minister said that "when we urge, the United States to reconsider its Middle East policy this does not mean that we want its policy to be commensurate with that of the Arabs" but rather to be based on rights and justice.

Alawi would not confirm or deny reports that Oman had decided to allow the PLO to open an office in Muscat.



Alawi

Battle continuing, says Tehran Iranian rebels 'capture' Mehran

BAGHDAD, June 19, (AP): The National Liberation Army, an Iraq-based organisation of Iranians opposed to the regime of Ayatollah Khomeini, said its troops today captured the Iranian border town of Mehran after fierce fighting.

A press officer at NLA headquarters in the Iraqi capital told reporters that NLA fighters "liberated" Mehran in a major offensive, which started last night.

In a statement telexed to the Associated Press office in Baghdad, NLA commander Massoud Rajavi said the capture of Mehran "is a great victory and a basic step toward the overthrow of Khomeini's oppressive regime."

Prelude

Rajavi said the operation was "a prelude to the conquest of Tehran."

The official Iranian news agency, IRNA, confirmed that fighting was going on in Mehran today but said the attack was by Iraqi forces.

The news agency said: "The Muslim forces of Iran are now reportedly engaged in heavy battle with the Iraqi forces in the northeastern part of Mehran."

An earlier dispatch from IRNA had said a six-pronged attack on Mehran was repulsed and only Iranian mopping up operations were continuing.

The Iraq news agency, quoting Iraq's Minister of Information, Latif Nasif Jassim, denied that any Iraqi Army troops were involved in the Mehran offensive. It said all the attackers were Iranian members of the NLA.

The NLA statement said the Mehran offensive, named "Forty Stars," was the largest operation yet undertaken by NLA forces involving 22 brigades of combat and support troops and covering a front 31 miles (50 kilometres) wide.

Iraq said today its troops, fighting with heavy air support, drove Iranian forces from 13 peaks they had occupied in the northeastern mountains of Kurdistan.

The victories took to 25 the number of peaks Iraq says it has seized since Tuesday in a major offensive to regain strategic heights lost to Iran in March.

Iran-UK relations improving: Larijani

NICOSIA, June 19, (Agencies): A senior Iranian official said today relations with Britain were improving and a visit by four British politicians to Tehran would help the process.

The Iranian news agency IRNA quoted Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammed Javed Larijani as saying relations had improved after Britain took a "local and moderate" stance. The recent agreement to pay claims for damages to each other's embassies was a sign of growing co-operation.

Effective

Larijani welcomed the visit by the four British Members of Parliament, due to leave for Iran today.

"We believe that such measures will be very effective in improving mutual relations and paving the way for economic, scientific, and cultural co-operation between the Islamic Republic and Britain," said Larijani in the report.

The four politicians are part of a Church of England mission seeking common ground with Tehran that might lead to the release of three Britons believed held by pro-Iranian militants in Lebanon.

In London, a Church of England spokeswoman said Iran wanted to open a dialogue with the politicians in the hope of improving relations and helping free church envoy Terry Waite, journalist John McCarthy and Belfast teacher Brian Keenan.

"There's no feeling that the Iranians came cap-in-hand to us. But they have made it clear that they want to hold talks with us," the spokeswoman said.

Larijani said the visit was agreed at the request of the British government, although the British Foreign Office has said the government is not involved.

The British delegation has said it will not try to negotiate a deal for the hostages' release.

An emissary from the Archbishop of Canterbury met with a high Iranian official yesterday to discuss ways of releasing hostages in Lebanon.

The representative of Robert Runcie, met Mehdi Karrubi, Deputy Speaker of the Iranian Parliament.

Recent Iranian raids not a strategy shift

ABOARD THE USS CORONADO, June 19, (Reuters): Recent attacks by Iranian gunboats against shipping in the northern Gulf do not seem to signal a strategy shift in the ongoing tanker war in the region, the commander of US military forces in the area said yesterday.

"There has not been an increase in the use of small boats by Iran for hit-and-run attacks on tankers in the northern Gulf, and the two attacks in that area in the past few days were probably unrelated," said Rear Admiral Tony Less, commander of the joint task force Middle East.

Less made the comments to members of the US Defence Department news media pool aboard the flagship Coronado in the Gulf.

Asked if the Iranian gunboat

attack on the British-flagged Esso Demetia one week ago and a subsequent attack on the Singapore-registered Neptune Subaru a few days later represented a shift in the battle zone away from the Strait of Hormuz and into the northern part of the Gulf, Less said the two cases were different.

Signal

The Demetia, which was attacked just outside Saudi Arabian territorial waters off Ras Tannurah, "could signify perhaps a change. I'm not sure except that it was on the day of the opening of the OPEC meeting in Vienna and there may have been a signal that was being passed."

The Neptune Subaru, he said "clearly is not a change. That ship violated territorial waters of a sovereign nation."

Afghan rebels name government

PESHAWAR, June 19, (Reuters): The main Pakistan-based Afghan guerrilla alliance today named a "transitional government" with which it wants to replace the Soviet-backed government of President Najibullah in Kabul.

A 14-member cabinet of two vice-presidents and 12 ministers was announced at a news conference here by previously named President Ahmad Shah.

Shah, a US-educated engineer, said the alliance would soon announce where the transitional government would be based in Afghanistan.

Only one minister is a non-party technocrat, while all others are drawn from the seven guerrilla parties forming the alliance, said Shah, who belongs to the Ittebad-i-Islami party.

(See Page 2)

Pakistani troops given orders to shoot rioters

KARACHI, June 19, (UPI): Authorities today issued shoot-on-sight orders to troops enforcing a curfew in a southern city as the death toll from gunbattles between rival ethnic communities rose to nine, police and hospital sources said.

They said snipers killed four people early today in Hyderabad, 90 miles (150 km) northeast of the southern port of Karachi in Sind province, in continuing violence between the native Sindhi community and mohajirs from India.

Injured

Hyderabad doctors said five people had been transferred to Karachi with gunshot wounds and another 35 were being treated at local hospitals.

At least four people, including a police officer, were killed and 24 injured yesterday when gun-toting students from the two

Rabin meets Arabs to start a dialogue

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, June 19, (AP): Israeli Army today shut down three Arab schools where protests have erupted, and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin was reported holding secret meetings with Palestinian leaders in an effort to start a dialogue.

Israeli government leaders issued an appeal for the people to help in the battle against hundreds of fires that are being blamed on arsonists acting as part of the six-month-old Palestinian uprising.

Army troops shot and wounded four Palestinians during disturbances, a military spokesman said.

News of Rabin's continued meetings with local leaders in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip followed a weekend of violence in the territories in which two Palestinians were killed.

INSIDE

International	2
Kuwait-Gulf	3
Events	4
Features	5, 7, 8
Editorials	6
Pictures	9
Business	10, 11
Classifieds	12
Urdu	13, 14
Sports	15, 16

اقتصادی و صنعتی حالات

- سکھ انتہا پسندوں کے بم حملوں میں 15 افراد ہلاک
- حیدر آباد کے فسادات
- کراچی میں تھیل گئے
- اعلیٰ حضرت امیر پاکستان
- جاس کے
- افغان مجاہدین نے عبوری حکومت قائم کر لی
- پنجاب میں شہینہ کے لیڈر
- کوکلی ماروی مٹی
- ترک وزیر اعظم پر قاتلانہ حملہ کے بعد گرفتار
- مکتوب پاکستان، عالمی واقعات پر تبصرہ اور پیشینیا

WEATHER

TEMPERATURE will be around normal with moderate north-westerly wind, may freshen at times.

State of sea: moderate

High water: 4.30 am 3.00 pm

Low water: 9.30 am 10.00 pm

Sunrise: 4.49 am

Sunset: 6.50 pm

Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 42°C 108°F

Ahmedi: 39°C 102°F

Fallaka: 39°C 102°F

Minimum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 36°C 97°F

Ahmedi: 31°C 88°F

Fallaka: 29°C 84°F

Maximum temperature expected: Kuwait: 43°C 109°F

Ahmedi: 40°C 104°F

Fallaka: 40°C 104°F

Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 34 per cent

Ahmedi: 40 per cent

Fallaka: 48 per cent

Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 35 per cent

Ahmedi: 45 per cent

Fallaka: 50 per cent

INTERNATIONAL

Afghan Army claim control of vacated areas

Rebels suffer heavy losses

MOSCOW, June 19, (Reuters): Afghan Army figures show more than 1,200 Afghan rebels have been killed or wounded since Soviet troops began leaving Afghanistan last month, the official Soviet news agency Tass said today.

Tass quoted a statement released by the Army's general staff in Kabul as saying the rebels had stepped up attacks against government troops but the Army was capable of defending itself.

The Army was in control of all areas abandoned by Soviet troops since they began withdrawing from Afghanistan on May 15, under accords signed in Geneva in April, it said.

Control

In the past month, 524 Mujahideen rebels had been killed and 710 badly wounded in battles with the Afghan Army, Tass quoted the statement as saying.

Thirty-five rebels were taken prisoner and large quantities of weapons including rocket launchers and mortars were seized.

Tass reported powerful Afghan Army defensive operations in Nangarhar, Jawzjan, Kapisa and Nemozroze provinces.

It said Soviet troops had pulled out of Kunar, Nangarhar, Ghazni, Pakia and the Panjshir district of Parwan province, and the Afghan Army was now in control of these areas.

Moscow sent troops into Afghanistan in December 1979 to support the Marxist government.

The Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda said today it was time for effective measures to stop Pakistan violating the Geneva accords signed by Afghanistan, Pakistan, the Soviet Union and the United States.

"Pakistan's policy meets with support in Washington," it said, adding: "It is difficult to understand and explain the position of the United States."

Assistance

The newspaper said Pakistan was continuing to back the rebels because Islamabad receives military aid from the West and "normalisation of the situation in the region will leave them (Pakistan) without monetary support."

Pravda said Washington officials were behaving "as if they had forgotten that together with the Soviet Union they have a

special responsibility since both countries are guarantors of the Geneva accords.

It criticised a proposal by two party leaders in the US Senate for the appointment of a special US envoy to work closely with the mujahideen rebels in Afghanistan.

Pravda said the envoy proposed by Democrat Robert Byrd of West Virginia and Republican Robert Dole of Kansas would actually "guide the actions of the opposition groups."

Victory

Meanwhile guerrillas claimed to have recorded their first major urban victory yesterday by capturing Kalat, the capital city of Zabul province in southeastern Afghanistan.

Reports reaching Islamabad through the rebel-operated Afghan news agency said Afghan government troops had surrendered to Muslim guerrillas.

Soviet forces had abandoned Zabul province earlier this month, leaving the garrison city of Kalat in the hands of Afghan government troops.

Kalat, located about 350 kilometres south of Afghanistan's capital, Kabul, is the first

major urban centre to fall to the guerrillas.

"At the beginning they (the Soviet and Afghan troops) were everywhere. We had to attack one place, then another," said rebel commander Abdul Hameed. "Now they are all together. We can fight with them very strongly."

The Afghan news agency claimed a rocket attack on a radar post near Kalat preceded the city's collapse.

The Muslim rebels, called mujahideen, claim government troops sustained heavy losses. There were no reports of mujahideen casualties.

During the past week, the rebels have claimed to have taken over posts along the road north from Kandahar, Afghanistan's second-largest city, towards Kabul. The Kalat would leave only two strategic posts along the Kandahar-to-Ghazni road. Ghazni is between Kalat and Kabul.

Some 103,000 Soviet troops began withdrawing from Afghanistan on May 15 under terms of an agreement signed in Geneva by Afghanistan, Pakistan, the Soviet Union and the United States.



Passengers in Dhaka scramble to ride on a state-owned bus as several transport companies called an indefinite strike. (Reuters wirephoto)

Kidnapped Bangladeshis rescued

DHAKA, June 19, (Reuters): Bangladesh border guards have rescued nearly 60 men, women and children being sold outside the country for prostitution and organ transplants, a senior guard officer said.

Paramilitary Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) also arrested three traffickers on Saturday, including a woman, from north-western Chittagong district bordering India, Major Kazi Mujib said.

The arrested traffickers said they were taking the group to Pakistan via India to find employment. "But this is not an acceptable explanation," he told Reuters.

He said traffickers usually sell the women into brothels in India and other countries while the children are killed and their kidneys used for transplants.

"The old, are, needed for organ extraction, BDR and police have rescued more than 2,000 Bangladeshis so far this year, according to official figures.

Promises

Police said the latest group, including 18 women and four children, came from south-eastern Noakhali and Comilla districts, mostly lured by the fake promises of highly-paying jobs overseas.

Home Minister Mohammad Abdul Matin said in April: "The illegal trade in men, women and children has increased alarmingly in recent days, and if necessary the government will introduce a law providing death penalty for the traffickers."

The present law provides for 14-year imprisonment as maximum punishment for human trafficking.

Police say about 10,000 women and children are reported missing in Bangladesh each year. Fewer than half of them are eventually found.

Sugar strike

SUVA, Fiji, June 19, (AP): Fiji's sugar harvest came to a halt today as thousands of Indian farmers refused to cut cane in protest over bans imposed on work and recreational activities on Sundays, government-owned Radio Fiji reported.

The bans were imposed after last year's second military coup on the insistence of the powerful Methodist church and have angered the Indian population.

Power cut hits Mindanao Island

MANILA, June 19, (Reuters): A communist rebel mortar attack on an Army post in the northern Philippines triggered fighting in which 43 people were killed, the military said today.

In the south, officials said they were investigating whether a power cut that plunged part of Mindanao Island into darkness was caused by storms or rebel gunfire.

Military reports said 32 New People's Army (NPA) rebels and 11 soldiers were killed in fighting in Isabela province that began before dawn on Thursday when about 150 guerrillas fired mortars and machineguns at an army detachment in Palanan town.

The soldiers were killed in the initial rebel onslaught in the mountainous area 310 km north of Manila, battalion commander Colonel Reynaldo Lazaro said in a report to military headquarters in the capital.

100 injured during Dhaka bus strike

DHAKA, June 19, (Reuters): Nearly 100 people were injured and 50 vehicles damaged when Bangladesh lorry and bus drivers staged a weekend strike in protest against plans to jail for life those responsible for fatal traffic accidents.

Police today said they made no arrest during the clashes between strikers and drivers who continued working.

Most buses and trucks were off the roads after several transport workers' unions called an indefinite strike to protest against the government plans.

Plan

"The government needs to make provision for harsher punishment to curb the increasing number of road accidents and related fatalities," a police officer said.

The strikers say poor traffic control systems and corrupt officials who issue licences to bus and lorry drivers without proper

verification were to blame for an average 2,500 road deaths every year.

The Home Ministry, in a statement in early 1987, announced plans to introduce life imprisonment for those causing road deaths but the proposal has yet to be made into a law because of persistent protests.

Recently the government made fresh efforts to put the plan into effect.

Eyewitnesses said strike supporters attacked state-owned buses and private transport which defied the strike call and fought sporadic battles with transport workers seeking a negotiated settlement.

Trains and river ferries carried extra passengers and merchandise to ease the transport shortage.

But police said thousands of people were still stranded in Dhaka and other cities, many of them sleeping in bus stations.

Palestinians on trial for Sudan killings

KHARTOUM, June 19, (Reuters): Five men charged with killing five Britons and two Sudanese in Khartoum last month told a court today they were Palestinians working for the Arab cause.

"We do not need defence. The Arab people of Sudan will defend us," accused Ibrahim Saleh, 30, told the court in the capital's judiciary complex.

Judge Ahmed Al Beshir said the five faced the death penalty if found guilty.

The Britons, including two children, and two Sudanese — one an Army brigadier — were killed on May 15 when gunmen machinegunned the Sudan Club and a bomb explosion brought down the dining room roof at the Acropole Hotel.

False

"You have already passed your verdict which came from number 10 to the Prime Minister (Sadeq Al Mahdi) here," Saleh told the judge, referring to the official residence in London of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

"The trial is a false issue. Why don't you just condemn us to death now," Saleh said.

Sudanese officials said the five, who identified themselves in

court simply as "fighters for the Arab cause", had Lebanese passports and had confessed to being members of the extremist Abu Nidal Palestinian group believed to have masterminded dozens of such attacks in recent years.

Officials said it was possible that their Lebanese passports were forged.

Commenting on Saleh's outburst, judge Beshir said he was convinced the five needed defence lawyers and adjourned the case until June 26.

The five men identified themselves as Saleh, Imad Ahmed, 23, Hassan Qasim, 25, Sherif Ezzat, 22 and Mustafa Qasim, 26.

Prosecutor Omar Khairi told the court: "We want a fair trial which matches the charges facing the defendants and the nature of the crimes in question."

Armed police and plainclothes securitymen ringed the two-storey colonial building where the trial was being held on the ground floor nearly two hours before the case began.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Defence probe

WASHINGTON, June 19, (AP): Engine maker Pratt and Whitney possessed sensitive documents that rival General Electric Co. had submitted in competing for contracts worth hundreds of millions of dollars, the FBI said.

Meanwhile, two published reports said Navy Secretary John Lehman may have warned defence consultant Melvyn Paisley that his activities might be the subject of an investigation. The reports appeared in today's editions of the Washington Post and the Los Angeles Times, with both citing sources close to the investigation.

Bridge collapse

KATHMANDU, June 19, (UPI): A suspension bridge collapsed when 95 people, each carrying 55 pounds (26 kg) of processed marijuana, tried to cross it in the remote Nepalese district of Baglung, the daily newspaper Samaj reported today.

The newspaper quoted a witness as saying the bridge collapsed as the people walked across it at night. Nepalese normally cross the fragile bridges, which connect remote hamlets, single file for safety.

An unknown number of the 95 people were injured, the newspaper said.

Chemical fire

SPRINGFIELD, Massachusetts, June 19, (AP): Thousands of gallons of water failed to control a chlorine plant blaze that raged for a second day yesterday, sending clouds of gas over the city, injuring 275 people and forcing the evacuation of more than 6,000 residents.

The city's five pumps were turned on the advanced laboratories factory in hopes of "turning the plant into a big swimming pool," said Fire Department spokesman Giorgio Placanco.

Account frozen

DHAKA, June 19, (Reuters): The Bangladesh government froze the bank account today of a newspaper owned by a dismissed cabinet minister.

The chief editor of the daily newspaper Inquilab said its bankers were asked by the Home Ministry not to honour cheques or operate the newspaper's accounts.

"Nobody is telling us why," Inquilab's Mohiuddin told reporters.

Soviet unrest

MOSCOW, June 19, (Reuters): Hooligans smashed windows in houses in two towns south of Yerevan, the radio in the Armenian capital reported, and appealed for calm as tensions continued over a disputed territory in Azerbaijan.

Unemployment

PEKING, June 19, (Reuters): State firms are laying off some of their over-inflated workforces as China holds its first public debate on the sensitive problem of unemployment, the official press reported today.

But the sacked workers are accusing the bosses of "exploitation" and "anti-communism."

Police probe assailant's links

(Continued from Page 1)

news agency said the Motherland headquarters in the Muslim fundamentalist stronghold of Konya in central Turkey received an anonymous claim that the attack was carried out by autonomy-seeking Kurdish rebels.

Motherland deputy chairman Eyup Asik, quoted by the left-leaning daily Cumhuriyet, said: "About 20 minutes before the attack an anonymous caller to party headquarters switchboard said the prime minister would be killed."

He said the attack was made before a warning could be relayed to the stadium.

Asik added: "I do not think this is a single-man incident, it must have been done by an organisation... The call to the party shows the attack was planned."

Blurred slow motion television replays of the shooting appeared to show that a man with a gun tried to approach Deming as he was being carried away on a stretcher.

Security sources said Deming was a senior member of the Grey Wolves in his home town of Dazkiri, western Turkey. The group was affiliated to the ultra-right Nationalist Movement Party (NMP), banned under military rule from 1980 to 1983.

About 50 people were taken into custody yesterday in an attempt to determine whether people involved in the decoration of the convention hall were responsible in smuggling the gun. Beduk said none remained in custody today.

UK plans ban on gambling for under-16s

LONDON, June 19, (AP): A study saying hundreds of thousands of youths are hooked on slot machines has prompted the government to try to ban children under 16 from entering arcades where they can gamble at the machines, a report said today.

The government plans to propose the new law next month when the Home Office releases the study by a psychiatrist who estimates that 500,000 British children are hooked on the machines, the Sunday Times reported.

Emanuel Moran, a consultant psychiatrist who carried out the study, compared an addiction to slot machines to dependencies on alcohol or drugs, the report said.

"When children find themselves in that situation, it's a type of desperation," the report quoted Moran as saying.

"Even if they get over it, they have wasted vital years," Moran said.

Problem

He estimated that 100,000 children daily skip school to play the slot machines. "If you go into the history of people who, in adulthood, had a serious gambling problem, large numbers of them started in their teens."

Moran said he found that young people addicted to the machines steal money from their parents or friends in order to play.

British laws say people under the age of 18 cannot gamble, but the report said slot machines are available to children in amusement arcades, railway stations and other public places.

A voluntary industry code says that children under the age of 16 should not be allowed to enter gaming arcades unless accompanied by an adult.

In order to turn the code into law, the report said the government plans to give local authorities stricter licensing powers and create penalties for arcade operators who break the new rules.

Chun's execution demanded

Students battle with Seoul police

SEOUL, June 19, (AP): Radical students demanding the execution of former President Chun Doo-Hwan hurled firebombs and rocks at riot police today after authorities stopped them from marching to the ex-leader's house.

Riot police blocked the way with shields and burlap tear gas grenades when about 100 students failed to force their way through a police cordon ringing the area around Chun's house. Hundreds of other watching students cheered the marchers.

"Execute Chun Doo-Hwan," students yelled as they attacked riot police with firebombs and rocks in fighting that erupted around Yonsei University in the west of Seoul after the march was blocked.

Hundreds of police guarded Chun's house and roads leading

to it in a residential area some two kilometres from Yonsei.

Police seized several boxes of firebombs from marchers. Police officials said the bombs were to be used in an attack on Chun's residence.

Six students were arrested June 16 when about 20 radicals with firebombs unsuccessfully tried to attack the former president's home.

At a pre-march rally, radical student leaders denounced Chun and his successor, Roh Tae-Woo, and demanded they be punished for the bloody suppression of a 1980 anti-government uprising in Kwangju that left some 190 people dead. Students also demanded a probe into corruption. Chun's younger brother has been charged with embezzling government funds.

The unpopular leader stepped

down in February after heading an authoritarian government that suppressed opposition and imposed rigid controls on most aspects of South Korea.

Police outnumbered the radicals and had few problems containing them. The protest was smaller than most recent clashes in a wave of anti-government unrest that has swept the nation the past month.

Hundreds of riot police in green combat fatigues and black visored helmets charged the radicals several times to force them back. Armoured police vans fired barrages of tear gas into the ranks of students and rifle squads fired salvoes of tear gas canisters.

Waves of students pelted police with firebombs that exploded in orange showers of blazing gasoline.



South Korean students run away as riot police fire tear gas to stop them from marching on former president Chu Doo Hwan's house in Seoul. (Reuters wirephoto)

Angola peace talks to resume in Cairo

JOHANNESBURG, June 19, (Reuters): Angolan peace talks, threatened by a Cuban military buildup and wrangling over the venue, will resume in Cairo this week, South Africa said today.

A spokeswoman said Foreign Minister Pik Botha would meet South Africa's Angolan and Cuban adversaries for two or three days of negotiations, probably starting on Thursday. Pretoria made clear it will press for an explanation for the recent deployment of thousands of Cuban troops on Angola's tense border with South African-ruled Namibia.

Venue

"It will be a big issue," a diplomatic source close to the talks said.

The United States will also attend the negotiations on ending 13 years of hush war between Angola's Marxist government and South African-backed UNITA rebels led by Jonas Savimbi.

The talks, also aimed at achieving independence for

Namibia, began in London last month and a second round was held in the Congo capital Brazzaville. They are still at an exploratory stage.

The peace process stalled two weeks ago because of arguments over the venue and South Africa put its Army on high alert after a Cuban military thrust down Angola's West African coast.

Pretoria called up reservists to counter what it said was a force of up to 12,000 Cubans strung out within 12 kms of the Namibia border.

Western diplomats said the Cubans' surprise move may be an attempt to strengthen their hand at the bargaining table but said it could misfire by provoking Pretoria into a pre-emptive strike.

To help spell out their concern, the South African delegation travelling to the Egyptian capital is expected to include both Defence Minister Magnus Malan and Army chief Jannie Geldenhuys, diplomatic sources told Reuters.

Terrorists wiped out, says Barre

NAIROBI, June 19, (Reuters): Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre said that his troops had restored order in northern Somalia, target of rebel attacks and scene of a UN evacuation of foreigners earlier this month.

Mogadishu Radio, monitored in Nairobi, quoted the President as saying that recent suicide attacks by "terrorist gangs" in some parts of northern Somalia had been completely checked and attacking rebels wiped out.

The attackers had killed people and caused damage but security and stability in northern Somalia were now as good as in the past, he told members of Somalia's National Assembly's legal ratification committee.

Foreigners were evacuated from Hargeisa in a UN airlift after Somali National Movement rebels launched attacks on the town and on other centres in northern Somalia. They reported many deaths in rebel attacks and reprisals by Somali forces.

Siad Barre also said committees were working to ensure full implementation of a peace pact with Ethiopia.

Troops had disengaged along the border and Somalia and Ethiopia were discussing a prisoner exchange.

Most prisoners have been held since a 1977-78 war. Somali troops invaded Ethiopia's Ogaden region, which is inhabited by ethnic Somalis, but were driven out in 1978 by Ethiopian and Cuban forces, backed by Soviet advisers.

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الله اعلم

Cabinet discusses draft state budget

THE Council of Ministers held a regular session yesterday under the chairmanship of HH the Amir, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah.

After the cabinet session, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Rashed Al Rashed said that the cabinet discussed the draft state budget for fiscal 1988-89 and recommendations made by the economic and financial committee in this respect as detailed by Finance Minister Jassem Al Khorafi.

Messages

The Cabinet deferred action on the draft law allocating budgets of government ministries and departments for the next fiscal year, its explanatory memorandum and main tables until the next session, the official indicated.

At the outset, Rashed said, the

council took note of the two messages sent to HH the Amir by Zambian President and current chairman of the Organisation of African Unity, Kenneth Kaunda and the President of Brazil dealing with exerted efforts to halt the Iraqi-Iranian conflict and reinstate peace and stability in the region.

The cabinet, according to its spokesman, was kept informed of the correspondence between the Amir and each of the Moroccan and Jordanian monarchs centering on bilateral ties and efforts to coordinate Arab development activities at the regional and national levels.

OPEC report

Rashed went on to say that the session also took note of the current visit to Kuwait by Sierra Leonean President and talks he had with the Amir focusing on bilateral friendly relations and

issues of mutual interest.

The cabinet session also heard a report by the minister of oil on OPEC's bi-annual ministerial conference which concluded in Vienna last Tuesday, hoping that the accord reached would create the suitable atmosphere for achieving desired stability in world oil markets and serving the interests of all parties.

Similar reports were offered by the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs on the Geneva International Labour Organisation's conference and the Minister of Planning about the Geneva board of governors meeting of the UN Development Programme.

The council finally approved recommendations by the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters and decisions taken by the Municipality Affairs Committee.

Sierra Leone seeks Kuwaiti investment

THE President of Sierra Leone, Joseph Momoh, said yesterday his country was seeking funds from wealthy Arab states to finance new industrial and development projects.

President Momoh, who arrived in Kuwait on Saturday, told reporters he had discussed with Kuwaiti officials the possibility of their providing loans for new investment and industrial projects.

He gave no further details but Kuwaiti officials said Sierra Leone was asking for \$11 million to build roads and a regional hospital in Freetown.

Official talks between Kuwait and Sierra Leone went underway at Sierr Palace.

Condemned

Authorised sources said the talks, led by HH the Amir of Kuwait and President Momoh, tackled bilateral relations and ways to enhance them.

In a press statement, President Momoh said that his country condemned Israel's aggressive policy against Palestinians and called for an immediate end of the Israeli occupation.

President Momoh who is currently on a three-day visit to the country, urged a halt of the Gulf war that is endangering peace in the region.

Restoration

Regarding the Lebanese crisis, he pointed out to the damages done by the ongoing crisis and said solution to the Lebanese problems must be found.

He described the economic situation in his country as weak and for a solution, he encouraged foreign investments in his country.



President Momoh

try especially to tourism and mineral fields such as gold and diamonds.

Talking about Afro-Arab cooperation, President Momoh said that his country attaches special importance to such cooperation, where hopes and problems of those countries are the same and cooperation among the Afro-Arab states is needed.

Regarding some African states' restoration of diplomatic relations with Israel, the visiting president said, "Sierra Leone can not interfere with other states' policies," but "we are trying to discourage them from having relations with Israel."

"Sierra Leone would never consider restoring relations with Israel," President Momoh added.

President Momoh is visiting Kuwait as part of a Gulf tour which will also take him to Saudi Arabia.

University seats will remain vacant

DUE to the surprisingly low success rate in the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examination, university places will remain vacant in the coming academic year.

A source noted that the university had allocated 1,074 seats to the arts section — representing 45 per cent of the total — but the final results revealed that only 830 Kuwaiti students passed the arts section of the SSC. Most of these students are females who prefer to study in the institutes of the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET) and many live in remote areas like Jahra and Al-Hamad, which makes it difficult for them to join the university.

Besides this, some of the 830 students will go to military and police academies. The rest of the

seats were allocated to students of science, but the number of Kuwaiti students who passed in this section was only 1,800, considerably fewer than last year. A number of these will also go to military and police academies as well as the PAAET and the Education Ministry will send 200 of them abroad on scholarships. The source said he expected about 1000 Kuwaiti students to apply, leaving 300 vacant seats.

A further point was that the lowest acceptable mark in the SSC exam for admittance to Kuwait University was 95 per cent in the case of non-Kuwaitis. However, the first 50 outstanding non-Kuwaiti students in the arts section will be admitted, even if they scored less than 95 per cent, as a gesture of honour.

New communication networks for Coast Guard

LIEUT. COLONEL Ghazi Al Omar, the director of the Kuwait Coast Guard, in an interview with a local daily said "the department has acquired new communication networks which encompassed all communication needs of Kuwait's territorial waters."

He said that more sophisticated equipments were also introduced into the department's navigational equipment, which included advanced radar apparatuses, monitoring systems and long-range communication terminals including highly developed ciphering units. He disclosed that the new communication network would be operational as of next year and would serve to link the department with all mobile and stationary centres and Kuwaiti islands. Once in operation, the system, would in no small measure, contribute positively towards enhancing the capabilities of the coast guard operations.

Training

In the very near future, additional sophisticated state-of-the-art equipment would be added to the existing facilities, including, special-purpose speed

boats. Concluding, Al Omar said that with the introduction by the department of such sophisticated equipment, came the next step — specialised training of personnel who would be responsible for operating and maintaining these equipments. Presently, he said, a number of officials had been sent for high-tech training at the Marine and Engineering Science Colleges in Egypt, and another batch to Sharjah for training in radar technology.

Unifying rates

A STATEMENT issued by the GCC general secretariat in Riyadh said that a GCC committee on rates of communications between the GCC states will hold a two-day meeting in Manama, Bahrain on Tuesday. The committee will discuss a number of issues including unifying the rates of facsimile charges and the charges on the information exchange network. The meeting will also study a number of working papers on the development of communications between GCC member states.

Saudis support Egypt's return to Arab League

RIYADH, June 19, (KUNA): Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince and Deputy Premier Prince Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz has said that his country supports the readmission of Egypt to the Arab League membership and to all other regional and international forums.

"Frankly speaking I would say yes we have worked and will continue to work for the return of fraternal Egypt to its sisters in all councils, conferences or symposiums," he said in reply to a question on the attitude of Saudi Arabia toward Egypt's readmission to the Arab League.

Compromise

Egypt was expelled from the Arab League in 1979 over its peace accord with Israel but all except four Arab states restored ties with her last November following an extraordinary Arab summit in the Jordan capital leaving the door open for the Arab states to normalise relations with Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Algeria and Libya, he said.

four states still with no relations with Egypt.

Prince Abdullah, who is also chief of the National Guard, was speaking to Al Sharq Al Awsat daily before returning home last night from official visits to Britain and Ireland.

He affirmed that unity of the Arab ranks is the only way to achieving goals of the Arab nation, assuring the newspaper that King Fahd is doing his utmost to compromise between the Arabs.

Foreign fleet

The Saudi prince said he saw no basic reason warranting the existing difference between Iraq and Syria or between Jordan and the PLO or between any Arab or Islamic country and the other.

Commenting on security in the Arab Gulf, he said the Gulf Cooperation Council states are now in a position to repel any aggression and deter any aggressor, asserting that the Iraq-Iran war, which the rulers of Iran insist on, "is the worst evil of all."

On the situation in Lebanon,

Prince Abdullah said Lebanon can only be saved by the Lebanese themselves and by liberating them from all non-Lebanese influence.

Prince Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz held Iran "responsible, first and foremost," for the presence of foreign fleets in the Arab Gulf and for the consequences of its (the foreign fleets) presence now and in the future.

He warned that the war between Iraq and Iran, which is well into the eighth year now, cannot come to an end before the regime in Tehran meets with the aspirations of the Iranian brothers and "before the regime in Tehran realises that the revolution is neither exported, imported or smuggled" and that "Islam, not hegemony or expansion, is the sole bond binding Islamic peoples."

"Iran must understand that the world will not let her exercise piracy and roam the high seas unchecked and prevent delivery of oil to the international market," he said.

Jordanian claims to be the oldest man

A JORDANIAN man who claims to be the oldest in the world, said he had been smoking 20 cigarettes every day for the last 110 years.

The man, Fadel Abdul Rahim Shabli Atoum is 125 years now and lives in the Jordanian village of Souf. He stated that he was born 15 years before the construction of a well-known mosque, which was constructed in 1879. He said he began his life as a shepherd, was married at the age of 40 and had 8 sons and daughters and over 100 grand children. The oldest son, he said, died at the age of 75 and his wife died at the age of 85. During his school days he studied Turkish and Arabic and claims at the age of 125 he enjoys good health and still remembers almost everything that has occurred during the past.

Kidnapped boy's body found

A LOCAL daily reported that securitymen had found the body of a 12-year-old boy who disappeared from his home 10 days ago, in a farm in the Sulabiya area. The kidnapped boy had been assaulted before being stabbed by youths. The body was referred to the medical examiner to determine the circumstances of the crime.

Municipality fails to enforce cleanliness

A SECTION of residents criticised some officials of the Kuwait Municipality for their negligence in enforcing decisions adopted by the ministry in relation to the maintenance of cleanliness and with respect to the concept of cleaner beaches.

Ahmad Karim Ahmad Al Yaqout said some retired municipal officials still use their municipal ID cards for personal benefits and even threaten workers with deportation. He said a decision was adopted by the municipality to clean coastal lines and beaches — but so far, no concrete evidence was visible.

Fahad Abdullah Al Khalaf said some Kuwaiti areas had been completely neglected and some forgotten. He added that municipal officials often neglect to issue violations and senior officials were rarely seen during

inspection patrols. In some areas, the cleaning companies did not execute their job-functions and should be disciplined.

Violators

Ahmad Saqer said some restaurants and shops had several violations which were overlooked and called for stepping up of inspection patrols. He added that most of the decisions adopted by the municipality are not implemented and when attempted, they are done in a haphazard manner.

Ali Al Fili called on the municipality to take more serious punitive actions against violators; eradicate the hawkers and free lance salesmen and ensure that food shops strictly abide by the code of cleanliness and hygiene as prescribed by the municipality and the Ministry of Public Health.

Assad to visit Moscow

ABU DHABI, June 19, (KUNA): Syrian President Hafez Al Assad intends to visit the Soviet Union within the coming few weeks, Al-Itihad newspaper reported today.

The paper quoted a close political source to Syria in Beirut as saying that President Assad's visit to Moscow is in response to an invitation made by the Soviet leadership last week.

The visit also follows the Soviet-American summit in Moscow and the recent emergency Arab summit in Algiers.

GCC Information ministers to meet

RIYADH, June 19, (KUNA): Director-general of information at the GCC's secretariat general Dr Abdullah Al Jasser today announced that information ministers of GCC states will meet here next Wednesday at the secretariat general premises.

Dr Abdullah said in a press release, distributed here, that undersecretaries of information ministries of the GCC countries will hold on Tuesday a preliminary meeting here.

The information ministers' agenda includes a work paper by secretariat general on evaluating joint information work of GCC and other different issues in this field.

The Gulf Cooperation Council groups Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Oman and Bahrain.

ACO officials end Jordan visit

AMMAN, June 19, (KUNA): The Secretary-General and the Director-General of the Arab Cities Organisation (ACO), Abdul Aziz Al Adasani and Taleh Al Taher, left here today following a two-day visit to Jordan.

The ACO officials held talks with Amman's Mayor Abdel Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh on arrangements for the first conference for Arab and European cities in Marrakech, Morocco next October.

The conference, due to group 60 mayors, aims at laying down basis for co-operation between Arab and European cities, in addition to exchanging expertise in the various fields and also viewpoints toward Arab issues.

The two sides also reviewed resolutions of the ACO's permanent bureau which was held in Tunis last month, spearheaded by a decision to re-admit 25 Egyptian cities to the organisation and granting loans to several Arab cities from the Arab Cities Development Fund.

The information ministers' agenda includes a work paper by secretariat general on evaluating joint information work of GCC and other different issues in this field.

ROYAL COURT

Amiri audience

HH the Amir yesterday received Sheikh Jaber Al Ali Al Sabah.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

PLO statement criticised

A KUWAIT daily yesterday criticised recent statements of PLO chairman's political advisor Bassam Abu Sharif expressing readiness to enter negotiations with Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir on a peaceful settlement to the Palestinian cause.

Al Rai Al Aam said unless the statements were kind of new political tactics called for by certain international circumstances, then they are very serious.

The paper warned, however, that if the statements were meant solely to take part in an international Mideast peace conference then the issue is controversial.

It explained that negotiations between any two parties should be based on equal parity. Israel does not recognise Palestinian rights and not even the PLO, it noted.

The daily wondered why then did we attack policies of late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat. He negotiated the Israelis and retook Sinai, the paper added.

It there is a Palestinian interest in negotiating with Shamir, then there is need for the intifada, the paper went on.

The paper concluded that such impulsive statements will not lead to the international conference and emphasised "we should stick to doctrines and resist tiring attempts until more acceptable circumstances surface."

Abu Sharif had called for direct Palestinian-Israeli negotiations on peace in the Middle East within an international conference on the Middle East question.

Shortage of drugs for heart diseases

IBRAHIM Al Mudaf, the assistant undersecretary for drugs and medical equipment at the Ministry of Public Health, has said that all important drugs are available at Health Ministry pharmacies, but he admitted that there had been a shortage of drugs for heart diseases this year because of a reduction in the budget. An additional KD 4 million is required though the ministry has allocated KD 15.5 million for importing drugs in the fiscal year 1988/89. He added that patients with heart conditions, blood pressure and diabetes caused stock difficulties because they required advance prescriptions, but he anticipated no major problems if the Finance Ministry approved the budget.

Al Mudaf denied inconsistencies in the present policy of organising the distribution of drugs, adding that the ministry had set up a specialised committee.

The transfers included Jassem Borosli, Kuwait's envoy to Algeria, Mohammed Salem Al Balhan, Ambassador to Senegal and Abdul Aziz Al Sarawi, the Kuwaiti envoy to Morocco, and are effective June 13.

Another decree was published in the gazette appointing Sulaiman Salem Al Fassam Ambassador extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the State of Kuwait to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan as of June 13.

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tee which was making studies on different kinds of antibiotics to reduce them to a limited number in the near future. Furthermore, the ministry has reduced the number of drugs used for rheumatism from 12 kinds to six on account of similarities in their composition and has signed contracts to purchase these drugs from local agents.

Dr Saddad Sahbi, the director of the quality control department at the ministry, has said that the department is concerned with services to patients as well as quality control of drugs and has a committee which is responsible for safeguarding patients from the hazards of drug misuse.

Foot and mouth disease in UAE

DUBAI, June 19, (Reuters): Foot and mouth disease has broken out in the United Arab Emirates and the country's largest zoo has closed to stop the infection reaching its animals, the zoo's director Ghassan Ramadan said today.

Ghassan Ramadan said Al Ain Zoo would be shut for three weeks following cases of the fatal virus, which affects deer, sheep and other hooved animals, in nearby hilly area near Oman.

"We have no cases in the zoo but we aren't taking any chances," he said.

The Khaleej Times newspaper said two cows had died of the disease in the area and that domestic animals were being vaccinated. Ministry of Agriculture officials were not available for comment.

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HBA-GRANT

EVENTS

By Fathima Ahmed

ACTOR Naseeruddin Shah once said of Indian movies: "Our films mirror the society". In recent months, they seem to be doing just that — talking about dormant fears, at least hinting about them. If this is true, there is certainly cause for concern — about police hypocrisy (Aakhi Adalat), arms smuggling (Commando) and mayhem (Zinda Jala Doonga).

Recently such films as Ardh Satya focussed on police brutality and the breakdown of a system; Andha Kanoon, a highly emotional drama, hit the legal system with a vengeance, setting the trend for the anti-hero fighting to bring the system to its knees. That it did it in the most bizarre manner is another matter altogether.

Now, filmmakers are improving techniques and using special effects. The result: action films. In vogue also are escapism, fantasy and violence. Examples: Commando, Aakhi Adalat and Zinda Jala Doonga.

Commando

Commando is an unpretentious action film — in uniform and out of it. Ninjas are the latest imported rage in Bombay filmdom, the black hooded, menacing variety. Mind you, they are not convincing, though. They are feeble — perhaps to emphasise the qualities of our super-hero, Commando (Mithun Chakraborty).

As long as movies seek to provide access to the unreachable, the film villains will act out our nastiest impulses on the screen, perhaps, for a few guilt free hours in the dark or in your drawing room on video.

Commando starts out with distortion of history, or maybe, it expresses a desire of someone who wished they were there to save Indira Gandhi from her assassin's bullet. Mrs Gandhi's last speech is repeated verbatim. Then, bullets fly, killing an Army officer. The leader is unarmed. This sets the stage for Commando's intensive coaching in all arts — martial, martial, superhuman and others.

"I am the messiah of the poor", he mutters with clenched teeth as he bases up the son of a "deputy minister" and his cronies, and trots off for a melodramatic union with his sick mother.

The songs come later: after shapely Mandakani oozes charm as the lecherous Masturi (Amrish Puri) licks his lips. One may dare to ask why music — the dancing around the trees variety — is needed in an action-oriented film? The answer, simply, would be no Hindi film is complete without Asha Bhosle and Kishore Kumar. In Commando, in an amusing scene, we see Mithun and Mandakani dancing to Asha and Kishore's tune.

In between, the Commando matures — from an obedient fighter to a disobedient rebel. Action multiplies by the minute.

The slender theme runs

INDIAN VIDEO ROUNDUP

Action in vogue



Naseeruddin Shah: downhill trek

around a down-and-out formula: gangsters plotting to incite violence — religious and political — by smuggling weapons. "If the government has tightened smuggling, we'll produce them here," roars the "great" gangster. (Incidentally, he hates being called "great". "Not great, I am 'mahaan'," he grunts. What's the difference? Anyway, who cares.) They plan the great arms robbery — from a privately owned ammunition factory.

When the Commando is not singing in the snow, or cuddling Mandakani in a but, he is fighting the gangsters, probably with 10 arms and 12 legs. Ferocious battles are fought on the highway, in the hills, on the mountain slopes and even in the villain's den. The best or the worst — depending on how you look at it — action is reserved for the countdown to victory. You find out, or guess, who wins the war.

Aakhi Adalat

Following in the footsteps of Shahenshah comes the "black hooded killer" in Aakhi Adalat (AA), incidentally it carries an "A" Certificate from the censors. Let's just hope this is the last of the court-vs-layman battles fought on screen. This would not be the case. The appeal of greed, deceit and venality in gangster-action films lives on — so will the in-and-out-of-court battles on film.

The identity of the black-hooded killer provides some mystery — for a time. It is not difficult, though, to guess who is behind the murder of "all criminals honourably released by the law."

Once that puzzle is solved, the rest is a repeat of Insaaf — Vinod Khanna's reintroduction to cinema; Andha Kan-



Jackie Shroff and Vinod Khanna: sharing action in Aakhi Adalat

oon, Shahenshah and a host of other films, Indian and English, too numerous to enumerate. Other familiar touches include a contrived mother-vs-son conflict; an abused dose of misunderstanding in which the honest cop is pulled up by his superiors, providing time for a boozing spree and a buddy-buddy song on the street; "Jo tu karega, woh main karunga".

Vinod Khanna stars in Aakhi Adalat, as an astoundingly agile police officer. The film exploits Vinod's virile macho image, giving him the meatiest bits of action. Tough-looking Jackie Shroff gets some left-

over pieces. The battle is between the "blind law" — in case someone misses the point, we are constantly shown the statue of the blind-folded woman with the balance — and the lawyers who twist truth to win a case. "I put my life at stake to catch these criminals, and they walk away free men from court," moans Vinod, the hot-headed police inspector who is told by his superiors to "keep away from every complicated case, or you'll complicate it further."

To keep Vinod out of trouble (rather to get him into it), they find him an assistant, a bumbling cop who stumbles, fumbles and mumbles her way into Vinod's heart, melting the iron-hearted man of steel. Some luck!

Dimple's overacting is visible in some comic capers, nevertheless she is adorable, though she can't play the coy, shy woman.

Sonam, the girl who has reportedly dozens of films in hand, makes her debut as the girl on the beach, of course, skimpily dressed, whispering a romantic ballad in Jackie's ears, and romancing in a hospital — with Jackie recovering from a bullet wound suffered in a street shoot-out. No one would have missed the girl.

Zinda Jala Doonga
No one will miss the high-powered drama of Zinda Jala Doonga (I Will Burn Them Alive) and the downfall of Naseeruddin Shah. After seeing the film, you feel like burning alive everyone associated with the film.

New stereotypes include: a thakur, bare-bodied, clad in a white dhoti with a swastika mark glittering (no exaggeration) on his bald head. His henchmen are a bunch of buffoons, dressed similarly. Hitler would shy away from thakurian tactics of forcing a man to pull his tanga or cremating a dog ("It (the dog) is like my son"). There's nothing wrong about his sentiments, but something is amiss in the degrading of human beings.

The romantic pair land from the moon. The girl, who has yet to learn the ABC of acting, shows a lot of cleavage, can't even pout and purr and gives her heart — on a stethoscope — to a doctor. The doctor is the "glimmer of hope to integrate Indians, wiping out class distinction." He also gets some trumped-up award for marrying a low-caste girl.

If any doctor willingly goes downhill, it must be Naseeruddin Shah. Why else would he be smug in a role tailor-made from his Jalwa capers? Shah's Harya is an emotional bomb. And when he bursts, you see flames rising from every corner of the village. Apparently, he is the cremator in the village.

Perhaps, there is a grain of truth in the rape of a low-caste girl by policemen in a remote village. Indian newspapers did carry such a tale. But was it necessary to glorify the sordid episode in minute detail?

Behind the fiery ire of Zinda lies producer-director Mahendra Shah's desire to "speak out against oppression." He is not the first; nor will he be the last. But will he wipe-out injustice by foisting an unjust, violent, bad film on viewers?

The above films are by courtesy of Ashraf Video, Main St., Farwania. Tel: 4712900.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.30 Cartoons: Rahlat Haul Al Alam
- 10.00 Good Morning
- 10.15 Shams Al Kharref: Arabic serial, starring Tawfiq Abdul Hamid, Zizi Badawi, Suhair Barouni.
- 11.00 News Summary
- 11.15 Ghaddan Tabdan Al Hayat: featuring Hayat Al Fahad, Suad Abdullah, Ghanem Al Saleh.
- 12.15 Treasures of the Gulf
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 World News via Satellite
- 2.30 Al Bahloul: featuring Assam Sulaiman, Salah Qassas.
- 3.35 Bill and Sebastian: Cartoons
- 4.20 Football: Kuwait vs Japan. Replay of match played for 1986 Olympics qualifiers in Seoul.
- 6.00 Mama Anisa and Children
- 7.15 Alwan: hosted by Rolah Al Farah.
- 7.45 Quran and Science: Alam Al Bahar. Prepared and presented by Dr Ahmad Shawki Ibrahim.
- 8.30 Souk Al Gbazi: daily serial, starring: Mohammad Saeed Shirin, Zubair Numan.
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Rifat Al Hijjan: Arabic serial. Starring: Mahmoud Abdul Aziz, Yusra.
- 10.45 Afreet Marrati: Arabic film. Starring: Shadiya, Salah Zulfikar, Imad



Mr Belvedere (Christopher Hewett) fights deportation in tonight's episode, 7.30 pm, KTV2

Hamdi, Adel Imam, Amal Zayed.

12.15 News Summary/Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Wildfire: "Strangers in the Night" Cartoons
- 6.30 Scuba World: a trip to the Gulf of Mexico — and a look at diving.
- 7.00 Roving Report: weekly roundup of world and local events.
- 7.30 Mr Belvedere: "Deportation." Part



Shadiya stars in tonight's Arabic film on KTV2: Marrati

Saad Abdullah appears in Ghaddan Tabdan Al Hayat, the daily serial at 11.15 am on KTV2.

11. Mr Belvedere has been arrested for staying illegally in the U.S. Will he be deported or find a way out? Starring: Christopher Hewett.

8.00 News in English

8.40 Murder. She Wrote: "Curse of the D." One morning, Alice finds Richard has locked himself in the library. She gets help, and they break open the door. Inside the room, they find Richard's body. A ruby pendant is missing. Starring: Angela Lansbury.

9.30 National Geographic: "Realm of the Alligator." A look at Alligators inhabiting the swamps of western Florida.

10.30 Pokerface: Crawley is recognised: his cover blown, he is at the end of his tether.

11.30 News in Brief

11.40 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

FM Services

- 0800 Easy Listening
- 0830 News
- 0840 Easy Listening
- 1000 Songs and Music
- 1300 Easy Listening
- 1330 News
- 1400 Classical Music
- 1600 Easy Listening
- 1700 Latin America Hour
- 1800 Pops
- 1900 Heiter Skelter
- 2000 Pops
- 2130 News
- 2145 Pops
- 2200 Jazz Sound
- 2300 Easy Listening
- 2400 Instrumental Music
- 0200 Closedown

BBC World Services

- 0000 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Radio Newsworld
- 30 Religious Service
- 0100 News Summary followed by After Henry
- 30 Four Stories by Elizabeth Bowen (ex 27th The Racing Game)
- 45 A Schubert Anthology
- 0200 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 Peabody's Choice

- 30 Science in Action
- 0300 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Good Books
- 30 Anything Goes
- 0400 Newsworld
- 30 Behind the Wall
- 45 Reflections
- 50 Waveguide
- 0500 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Nature Notebook
- 45 Recording of the Week
- 0600 Newsworld
- 30 Pillars of British Society
- 0700 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 From Coca to Cocaine
- 0800 World News
- 09 Reflections
- 15 Behind the Wall
- 30 Anything Goes
- 0900 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 Good Books
- 30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup
- 45 Peabody's Choice
- 1000 News Summary followed by Pillars of British Society
- 30 The Vintage Chart Show
- 1100 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Sportsworld (ex 13th Tech Talk: 27th New Ideas)
- 25 (27th only) Book Choice
- 30 The Ken Bruce Show
- 1200 World News

- 15 Brain of Britain 1988
- 45 Sports Roundup
- 1300 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Sportsworld (ex 6th Recording of the Week: 13th Anything Goes)
- 45 Sportsworld (ex 13th Anything Goes cont'd, 27th Jazz Scene UK)
- 1400 Outlook, opening with 5-minute News
- 45 6th and 13th Future Imperfect: 20th and 27th The Bishops Come to Lambeth
- 1500 Radio Newsworld
- 15 Pillars of British Society
- 45 Weber
- 1600 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 6th and 13th Squaring the Triangle 20th and 27th Sportsworld

ALL TIMES GMT

Urdu

- 1900 Opening
- 1910 Behlaren Qaul
- 1916 Programme Preview
- 1920 Songs
- 1935 Press Report
- 1940 Islamiyat: Daur-e-Hazir
- 2000 News
- 2020 Songs
- 2040 Hamare Mehman
- 2100 Closedown

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Alamiya Pharmacy
Jandol Bldg., Fabad Al Saleh St.
Al Muntasar Pharmacy
Ahmed Al Jabir St.

Hawalli and Nagra
Al Noora Pharmacy
Othman St.

Salamiya and Rumaithiya
Al Quds Pharmacy
Abdul Karim Mazal Bldg., Amman St.

Fahadheel and Ahmadi
Al Imaan Pharmacy
Makkah St., F'beel

Jleeb Al Shiyyok
Al Razi Pharmacy
Area 17, Bldg., 16

Jahra
Al Khalid Pharmacy
Opp. Cooperative Society

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
The Last Shark
Starring: James Francisco, Vicki Moro

Al Salmiya
Desperately Seeking Susan
Starring: Madonna

Al Hamra
Caher Al Fursan (Arabic)
Starring: Yunus Shalabi, Dalal Abdul Aziz, Wahid Saif

Drive-In
Laila Al Kabz Ala Bakaiza
Wa Zaghloul (Arabic)
Starring: Suhair Babil, Issad Yunus

Al Firdous
Pyaar Ke Kaabil (Hindi)
Starring: Rishi Kapoor, Poonam Dhillon

Fahadheel Open-Air
Insaaf (Hindi)

Al Fahadheel
They Call Him Trinity

Al Jahra
The Man in the Wilderness

Granada
True Stories

Sulaiskhat
The Imp

Al Jleeb
Raj Bikhari (Bengali)

Ahmadi Drive-In
Ice Pirates

PRAYERS

Fajr 3.13 am
Zuhr 11.49 am
Asr 3.23 pm
Maghreb 6.50 pm
Isha 8.23 pm

WHAT'S ON

ARTS
Tareq Rajab Museum
The museum in Jabriya houses a collection of Islamic art, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world. Summer timings are 9am to 12noon and 4 to 7 pm, Sat. thru Thurs. On Friday the museum is open only in the mornings.

Islamic Arts Museum
The museum, located on Arab Gulf Street, is open from 8.30 am to 12.30 pm and 4.30 to 7.30 pm, Saturday to Thursday. A collection of the finest Islamic art objects are on show.

THEATRE

Sounds Great
Anyone interested in auditioning for future Sounds Great shows — singers, dancers or musicians — are requested to contact Ken Winston on 5740256/7 or 5758870.

CINEMA

British Council
The feature film, The Shooting Party, will be shown at the British Council, Mansouriyah,

on June 25 and 26 at 6.30 pm. It is a charming, perceptive story about the last days of the Edwardian society. Approximate 96 minutes. Admission is free but it is advisable to reserve seats in advance. Tel: 2515512; 2533204.

SOCIAL

Kokan Variety Show
The Kokan groups in Kuwait will hold a variety show to celebrate the 40th anniversary of India's independence. It will be held on June 24, Friday, at 5.30 pm, at the IAC, Fun-atees. The show has been organised by the Bamee Kokan, Kokan Literary Circle, Kokan Cricketers and Kokan Fine Arts. All members and their guests are invited to attend the show.

Onam Festival
The Viswabarathi Theatres, Abbasia, will celebrate Onam on Aug 25 at the Indian Arts Circle. The programme comprises Onam songs, Mohiniyattam, classical dances, Thiruvathirakkali, folk dances, light music, one-act play, boat race and Kerala rural arts. Those interested in taking part contact Lazar Varghese - 4314511; Thomas Pereumpilly - 4810490 ext. 207.

Verghese Paradyil - 2422973.
D'Amnest Association
The association will hold a social evening cum entertainment on August 11 at Messilah Beach Hotel. The event is part of the 40th anniversary of Indian independence. Top Ranks and Next of Kin will be in attendance. For details contact Leena - 2469811, 9.30 am to 5 pm; Henry 3291909/am, 3717346 (pm) or Augustine 5746754 after 6 pm.

Eid Reunion
An Eid Reunion party for Bangladeshi engineers and architects will be held at Messilah Beach Hotel, Al Amal Hall, at 7 pm on June 23. For details phone 4718517; 4311331; 3713923 after 3 pm.

United Goans Centre
The UGC will hold their annual Summer Belle 88 contest on August 11. The committee will host a gala event to mark the 10th anniversary of UGC.

HOTELS

At the Meridian
Al Fingan Tea Lounge features a selection of coffee, tea and juice. Live entertainment in the evening is provided. Versailles is open daily for lunch and dinner featuring Continental cuisine. Business

lunch with three choices daily also offered. Live entertainment in the evening.

At the Sheraton
Nightly dine in the Hunt Room with live music by the Trio Paradise. For lunch Hunt room offers a la carte. Tarbouche on the roof features a variety of Lebanese cuisine on Sunday nights. Live entertainment by the World Machine Band.

At the Continental
The Gardenia, open from 7 am to midnight, offers dinner buffet on Thursdays; the buffet features grilled specialties. The Friday lunch features Indian, Arab and Continental cuisine.

The Darbar offers an Indian buffet lunch daily except Fridays and a la carte for dinner.

SPORTS

PBAK Bowling Clinic
The Philippines Bowlers Association in Kuwait (PBAK) will hold a bowling clinic on June 24, 12 noon. Topics to be discussed are mental attitude and tools of the trade, basic techniques and approach and strategies. All bowlers are requested to register at 300 Club before Thursday, June 23. Entrance free.



● The Paradise Duo (above) serenade daily in the SAS Hotel's Al Bustan restaurant and the Peacock Room. They play a selection of melodies from around the world.



The Fendi Sisters in a Press Conference

By the invitation of Ahd M.S. Khatib & Partner, a press conference was held at the Company premises, where Mr Sarkis Arslanian, president of Al Khatib & Partner Co. welcomed the representatives of the local dailies and weeklies in Kuwait. Also Mr Arslanian welcomed Mr Martin Trout, Fendi's Export Director & Assistant Managing Director. The press conference focussed on the famous firm FENDI.

The famous firm FENDI, one of the world's celebrated fashion dynasties was established fifty years ago by a very young woman, Adele Fendi. Her daughters Anna, Carla, Alida and Paola joined the business.

The Fendi family grew in solidarity out of great mutual love and firm respect for duty, creative initiative and devotion to work. The Fendi Sisters have developed the small leather firm founded in 1925 by their mother into a huge business with volume in excess of 500 million dollars. The Fendi Sisters are famous for their furs and leather goods. In 1986 they introduced, very successfully, a new perfume for women — FENDI.

FENDI perfume which is flowery, woody and spicy was launched with tremendous success in Kuwait in August 1987. During the International Perfumes & Cosmetics Fair in Mishref, FENDI was one of the biggest sellers amidst similar international brands.

With great pleasure we learnt from the Arden Export Publication that in February 1987, Fendi was introduced exclusively with record success and sales in Bloomingdale USA.

The story of this phenomenal success is continuing with the introduction of Fendi for Men this fall.

UN award for Japan's birth-control pioneer aged 91

Recognition, at last



Shizue Kato: Japan's foremost birth-control advocate. With American birth control pioneer Margaret Sanger in 1923

By Janet Snyder

TOKYO. (Reuters): In 1937, Japanese police arrested Baroness Shizue Ishimoto after she set up Japan's first birth control clinic.

Fifty years later, she continues to fight for population control and at the age of 91 is finally getting world recognition for her work.

The doughty feminist, now plain Shizue Kato, was recently awarded what she believes is the crowning triumph of her long career — the United Nations population award.

"To me, this is like winning the Nobel prize," Shizue said in an interview.

Considered one of the most influential women in 20th century Japan, she leads two family planning organisations, and is vice-president of a third.

Thanks at least partly to her efforts, Japan's birth rate dropped dramatically after World War Two.

Parliament

Shizue likes to tell how, when Japanese women got the vote for the first time in 1946, she snatched her one-year-old baby daughter on her back to go to the polls.

That night, she sat as a socialist member of the parliament's House of Representatives. She was 49 years old at the time.

Another triumph came in 1956 when the popular former noblewoman was the nation's top vote-getter in general elections for the Upper House of parliament.

The feisty Shizue came a long way from the days of being the coddled daughter of a samurai family, where earning a living

or engaging in politics were not considered an option for Japanese women.

Things changed radically for her when she married Baron Keiichi Ishimoto, a leftist intellectual graduate of the elite Tokyo Imperial University, in 1914.

Ten years her senior, Ishimoto yearned to study revolution at the feet of Lenin himself, who came to power in the Soviet Union in 1917.

Denied a Soviet visa, he and Shizue in 1919 went to New York where he joined the budding Labour Union Movement.

Left alone, she decided to learn English by attending secretarial school.

She later wrote about her experiences in her 1985 autobiography "Facing Two Ways" which was used as a textbook by the US occupation authorities in Japan after World War Two.

Sanger

Her first meeting in 1920 with birth control pioneer Margaret Sanger led her to what was to become her life's work.

"She was fighting against puritanical prejudice. The minute I met her, I was inspired to take up this great work," Shizue said, eyes flashing.

She returned to Japan where her pro-birth control views ran up against Japan's increasingly militarist climate which encouraged women to have as many children as possible.

"Birth control wasn't prohibited by law," Kato said. "But the government wanted everyone to have big families to strengthen the nation."

She set up the nation's first birth control clinic in 1924 but three years later the police jailed her for two weeks for having

"dangerous ideas" and closed the clinic.

Baron Ishimoto and Shizue soon thereafter divorced when the baron, who espoused Japan's expansion into Manchuria, emigrated to the new Japanese colony.

"I thought it was imperialism no matter what the reason," she said.

Shizue in 1944 married Labour leader Kanji Kato, a fellow socialist. Two years later, husband and wife were both elected to parliament.

Gadfly

During seven consecutive terms of office in both houses of parliament up to 1974, Shizue developed a reputation as a gadfly, taking great pleasure in stirring controversy.

She was suspended from all party posts for a year in 1981 for criticising the socialists' opposition to normalised relations between Japan and South Korea.

She made waves in 1957 for publicly apologising for Japanese atrocities committed in the Philippines and Korea during World War Two.

Her 1959 criticism of the United States for inviting Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev.

"Inviting communist leaders to free countries is like putting a rabbit among cabbages," she said.

Today, Shizue Kato is a keen observer of Japanese politics. She admires Takako Doi, the woman chairman of the Japanese Socialist Party, but is critical of the mostly male cabinet which surrounds her.

"I guess we have to wait for them to die off before the party comes back to life," she said.



Signalling a historic breakthrough: Yorkshire's Colleen, Britain's first League-level woman umpire

She's the boss

By Jane Kelly

WHEN Yorkshiremen challenge Yorkshiremen in the life-and-death matter of cricket, then the umpire must be a commanding, no-nonsense figure of authority.

What she says must go. She? Colleen Morley of Barnsley, 46, plumber's wife, mother-of-two and the first woman ever to umpire a match at League level in Britain.

It was the opening game of the Yorkshire League, York were at home to Wakefield and the visitors' captain, Philip Hodson, 38, was not happy.

In between sarcasm rather heavier than Botham's but he said: "She won't be able to stand the swearing. Women don't have the experience to understand a close bow decision. The York captain, Andy Greasley, 28, and the Wakefield secretary, Reg Kaye, 70, thought it a great, if novel, idea.

In fact Captain Hodson would have been more or less right seven years ago when Colleen, was called from team-making and sandwich-cutting duties to stand in as umpire for a local match in which husband Dave was playing.

"It was the most terrifying moment of my life," she recalls. "I didn't know the rules, it was on the edge of the moors and it was snowing." Since then she has passed the rigorous three-hour Cricket Umpires' exam and coped with players who either swear or want to cuddle her and other problems such as no changing rooms.

She has strong opinions, particularly on all things Lancastrian, and the best moment in umpiring was when a cricketer swore, then apologised saying he'd forgotten she was a lass.

No body had better forget she's umpire.

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THE young man checked a detail of his make-up once again in his small mirror; then preened an eyebrow. Under the shady tree beside him, a dozen youths chattered happily into their mirrors as they stroked orange powder onto exquisite features and sketched in fine lips with indigo dye. "I like your orange make-up," exclaimed one boy. "It looks good on a handsome face."

"I want to load myself with necklaces," said another excited teenager while his friend rejected an embroidered shirt in favour of something more fetching. Shy and unnoticed outside the circle of men, a couple of girls quietly surveyed the prospects.

The occasion was a Wodaabe dance in an area of scorched semi-desert in Northern Nigeria where the Sahara merges with the drought-ravaged Sahel. To complete the circle of narcissism, I was filming the young men's make-up session for television. Finding ourselves surrounded by Boy George look-alikes when we'd come to make a film about some of the world's poorest nomads was odd enough. Odder still was to discover the Wodaabe obsession with male beauty which scatters the shrivelled bush with gorgeous dandies. Oddest of all was the insistence by our consultant anthropologist, Mette Bovin, that this male beauty contest was evidence of Wodaabe women's power to choose their men.

Obsession

"Everyone loves handsome people. We dislike ugliness very much. That's why we put on make-up," says Gorjo Bi Rima, a Wodaabe nomad who follows his cattle across some of the world's harshest landscapes in Africa, wandering the borders between Niger, Nigeria and Chad. The Wodaabe are among the last true nomads on earth, pursuing a marginal survival in the face of a punishing environment and suspicious govern-

ments. The obsession with the way they look and, most of all, with male beauty, is a central ingredient in Wodaabe life and how they define themselves. "I want my children to be handsome," Gorjo says. "This has always been our custom. We want others to say: 'This is handsome, this is pretty.' We value beauty very much."

At first acquaintance, the patterns of Wodaabe life seem to repeat some classic images of male domination. Men sprawl under trees while women pound millet through the blazing core of the day. Wodaabe means "People of the Taboo" and most of the taboos seem to be recipes for female subjection: menstruating

Desert dudes



'We want our children to be handsome'

women must stay away from the cattle and even combing a woman's hair is said to sterilise a cow's udders. "Lots and lots of work for the Wodaabe women," a mother of six told us. Then she burst into peals of laughter and things seemed more complicated.

Ambiguous

Mette Bovin has lived and worked alongside the Wodaabe since 1968. She has come to see the sexual dance between men and women as much more ambiguous than it appears. "In the end," she says, "it's the women who choose the men and all the elaborate dressing and make-up is a kind of male beauty

contest to compete for the attentions of women."

We filmed a young men's dance, an extraordinary two days of swirling, strutting male assertion which marvellously dramatised the state of Wodaabe sexual politics. After their hours of decoration and make-up, the young men stood out on the plain, chanting and taunting, black ostrich feathers nodding against a marbled evening sky. Then they circled in a splendid hypnotic dance called The Rume, while the young women stood quietly at a distance, heads discreetly bowed. At last, as the light faded, the women shuffled forward, a tiny hobbled step at a time, until they stood behind the man of their choice. What happens after the touch on the shoulder is played out in the darkened bush.

The Yake dance was the climax of our filming, a weird spectacular which demonstrates the extremes of Wodaabe display. With make-up flashing in the gloom, the young men flare the whites of their eyes and bare their teeth in an ecstasy of self-advertisement.

"The Yake is a magical dance," Mette Bovin says, "where the men seek to make contact with powers which will make them irresistible to women."

Inevitably, a people as obsessed with personal appearance as the Wodaabe had plenty to say about the visiting white film crew. "Like a horse", "like a camel", "like a tree" were some of the more flattering comments about us. For me, the clincher was an observation by a visitor to our camp, mercilessly picked up by our radio mike while we filmed an evening conversation with the men of Gorjo's group.

"Come and take tea at my camp," invited one of the men. "No," said the visitor, peering at the scorched film crew. "I prefer to stay and look at the red sheep."

Was woman born to suffer?

A BRILLIANT young medic in Oxford thinks differently: Dr Stephen Kennedy is one of a growing band who believes thousands of British women are putting up with unspeakable pain simply because they believe it is their birthright.

But painful sex, painful periods and apparent infertility are often symptoms of endometriosis—a disease some family doctors have never even heard of. It is said to have driven Marilyn Monroe round the twist 30 years ago, yet it has taken until the late eighties for the condition to receive a proper airing.

Mad

Dr Kennedy says if women sufferers want widespread relief and recognition, they're going to have to stand up and say: "We're mad as hell and we're NOT going to take it anymore."

Endometriosis is basically a case of the womb thing gone mad. At the end of their monthly cycle some women absorb bits of tissue back into the abdomen, resulting in the development of so-called chocolate cysts. In some, these produce no symptoms at all; in others, they can cause excruciating pain and possibly prevent conception.

"Teaching used to be that the condition was resolved following a pregnancy, but now we know this may not be so at all," says Dr Kennedy. "Yet 'Go away and get pregnant', is what many GPs say to their patients."

Consultant gynaecologists are better geared up to detect and treat the disease: the problem is getting the referral in the first place. "Women who are suffering have to go to their doctors and insist on seeing a consultant," says Dr Kennedy.

In America, they are testing diagnosis via a simple blood test, but for most women, the investigative process is usually laparoscopy, which means looking into the abdominal cavity under general anaesthetic and blowing it up with air.

In America, cysts can be removed on the spot with laser microsurgery, but in this country the instruments are in short supply and most women have to return for surgery later.

At present there is no treatment which does not have unpleasant side effects. The drug usually used is Danazol, a synthetic male hormone which simulates menopause. What it gives you — weight gain, acne, voice changes and depression — may be worse for your psyche than the pain.

The only alternative to the drugs and to surgery (which

often provides only temporary relief from symptoms) seems to be putting up and shutting up. Which brings us back to the beginning.

Fight

But Dr Kennedy, who is studying the disease under a Nuffield research grant, desperately wants us to fight our natural female inclinations to suffer in silence.

He says: "The message must be that pain is never normal; the reason endometriosis used to be called the Career Woman's Disease is because only career women were assertive enough to demand treatment and get diagnosed."

"Thousands of women may be suffering from the disease; we have probably only seen the tip of the iceberg."

Barbie: her life and times

By Newby Hands

BARBIE is the ultimate pre-teen dream. She is the all-action, all-glamour doll. More than 450 million impressionable little girls around the world have grown up with her, and dreamt of growing up to BE her.

Barbie is an international superstar. Andy Warhol painted her portrait. Top designers including Yves Saint Laurent, Christian Lacroix and Jean-Paul Gaultier have dressed the 11-inch tall, pink plastic, perfectly formed body. The search for the human Barbie could have been compared to the search for Scarlett O'Hara.

Well, now we have the Barbie biography, a loving illustrated history of all Barbie's 28 glorious years. Barbie, Her Life and Times is written by Billy Boy, jewellery designer, fashion historian and probably the world's greatest expert on Barbie. Barbie came into Billy Boy's life at an early age. His father bought him his first Barbie doll at the tender age of 13 (or six — accounts differ), a

strange present for a boy.

He now owns more than 11,000 dolls, has designed his own award winning Barbie doll, and knows everything about Barbie. Ken her "handsome steady", her best friend Midge and her kid sister Skipper.

The book is a compact history of fads and fashions. Barbie and Ken were with it, they moved and grooved with the times.

Barbie: Her Life and Times, by Billy Boy. Published by Colman Books.

FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

SMALLEST DOSE BEST CHOICE FOR BIRTH-CONTROL PILLS

QUESTION: I would like to be sure and I know there are many kinds of birth-control pills on the market. What are the best choices for birth-control pills?

ANSWER: Birth-control pills, or oral contraceptives, have been around for more than 25 years now and they are still the most effective non-permanent form of birth control. Oral contraceptives have changed. The pills that first were marketed in 1960 had large doses of estrogen and progestin, whereas those made today have far lower doses and are still effective.

The best choice for birth-control pills — or any other medicine — is the smallest dose that does the job. Most brands of oral contraceptives today contain 30 to 35 micrograms of estrogen. Some women have breakthrough bleeding at this low dose and may need to be switched to brands with 50 micrograms of estrogen. This is still a far lower amount of estrogen than was once used. Some types of oral contraceptives use slightly different amounts of estrogen and progestin over the course of the cycle, to mimic the normal rise and fall of hormones in the body.

The most serious health risks of taking the

pill are cardiovascular, meaning an increased risk of heart attack, stroke and blood clots. However, this risk is significant only for women older than 40 or those who smoke. For most women, the health risks of a possible unwanted pregnancy outweigh the risks of a contraceptive. The pill can cause nuisance side effects such as acne, weight gain and headaches, but these are minimised with newer low-dose versions.

There are actually several benefits to taking oral contraceptives. They appear to prevent formation of ovarian cysts and there is evidence they protect against endometrial and ovarian cancer.

But please remember, we are all unique individuals, and what may be right for your neighbour may not be the best for you. In this case it really is smart to get the personalised advice of your own physician.

QUESTION: What is a "boxer's fracture"?

ANSWER: A "boxer's fracture" is cracked knuckles, a common side effect of fist fighting, and frequently is called this even when caused by other circumstances. There are several options for treating such a fracture, and the final decision on how to

treat it depends on the severity of the injury, how important the hand's function is to the patient and how often the patient expects to be using the hand as a weapon. For instance, if the patient's hands are used at work or in hobbies, he or she may opt for more aggressive treatment. And, if the patient is a regular fistfighter, then the possibility of re-injury must be considered before advising extensive and delicate surgical repair.

The choices for treatment of boxer's fracture mainly revolve around whether to operate or treat more conservatively with protective splinting. More time is lost from work when surgery is chosen, because recovery is slower. There is some controversy over whether the functional and cosmetic improvements gained in surgery are worth the delayed recovery it involves.

The best results in treating boxer's fracture occur when the extent of the injury is fully evaluated, considering how the hand is used in occupational and leisure pursuits, and how important cosmetic results are. Based on this information, the patient can decide, with the physician, on the best course of action.

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EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

You can do very little with faith, but you can do nothing without it — Samuel Butler, English satirist (1835-1902).

FBI probes allegations

Corruption in US defence industry

By Charles Aldinger

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): An FBI probe into allegations of corruption in the defence industry has raised the question of just how close the links between the Defence Department and business should be.

There is a constant flow of executives back and forth between jobs at the department and the companies that sell the US military over \$100 billion in arms and research each year. Congress officials have dubbed the practice "the revolving door."

The result is a combination of old friendships and big money that can threaten impartiality and could give contractors access to early weapons design or other inside information needed for the edge in contract bids.

Justice Department sources say the current inquiry focuses on allegations that contractors, through consultants, offered bribes to officials to get information on contracts and competing bids.

Probe

The two-year probe, made public this week, could result in charges against more than 100 Defence Department, industry and former government workers who became consultants, the sources say.

Defence officials, defence experts and one former top Pentagon official told Reuters that controls on the flow of personnel between the department and its major suppliers are adequate and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, whatever the result of its inquiries, is unlikely to make much difference to the system.

"Hell, you've got bad apples in every barrel," said one senior Congressional official. "That doesn't mean the Pentagon should pass up defence experts and go hire somebody from Nabisco (the biscuit maker) to run its acquisition shop."

"The department is lucky to get someone from McDonnell Douglas, or Northrop, or some other defence firm. If they turn out bad, the system finds them like it will in this case," said the official, who asked not to be identified.

Bill Taylor, a vice-president of the private, Washington-based Centre for Strategic and International Studies, said major defence probes spring up every

five or 10 years.

"It's the free enterprise system at work. I'm sometimes surprised that there isn't more of this going on there. It's a tribute to the oversight process at the Justice Department, the Pentagon and in Congress," he said.

Industry analysts said cheating on defence contracts is more likely to come at the middle management level in large companies than at the top level. And, they say, high-level cheating is very unlikely among the top Pentagon leadership.

"If anything, the tight controls on changing jobs and acquiring contracts are making it too hard to get top people to go to work at the Pentagon, even if they want to serve the country," said Donald Hicks.

Hicks, a former vice-president of Northrop, became under-secretary of defence for research and engineering in 1985 and quit in frustration a year later to set up his own defence consulting business in Washington.

Defence analyst Tom Longstrech of the Private Federation of American Scientists, said he saw no need for Congress to further change controls on movement of personnel between the Pentagon and industry.

Exodus

The rules, tightened in 1986, include specific waiting periods for retired military officers and executives before they can take acquisition jobs in the defence industry. There was a major exodus from the Pentagon before they went into effect.

Melvin Paisley, who served from 1981 to 1987 in the procurement position of assistant Navy secretary for engineering and research, has emerged as a key figure in the probe.

Paisley set up his own consulting company on leaving the Pentagon. His suburban Washington home was searched on Tuesday.

Attorney General Edwin Meese said a grand jury could issue charges within 90 days, but federal investigators have cautioned against speculation involving Paisley or current Pentagon officials Victor Cohen and James Gaines, whose offices were also searched this week.

Cohen directs tactical weapons acquisition for the Air Force and Gaines is a deputy assistant Navy secretary for acquisition management.

Soviet Union ends silence on Latvians

By Jack Redden

MOSCOW, (UPI): Nearly a half century after the late dictator Josef Stalin ordered thousands of Latvians sent to Siberia, the Soviet government has ended its official silence on the brutal deportations.

Flower-laying ceremonies were held Tuesday at several monuments in the Latvian capital of Riga, the Soviet news agency Tass reported.

More than 30,000 Latvians were forcibly uprooted in 1941, one year after Soviet troops occupied the Baltic republic. Latvian emigre organisations say 1,300 people were executed in 1941 and 290,000 were forced out during several waves of deportations over the subsequent decade.

The United Nations has never recognised the Soviet designation of Latvia as one of the country's 15 republics.

"In solemn silence, people placed flowers at the Monument of Freedom, near which marched a parade of the Latvian corps — which as part of the Red Army brought the Latvians' liberation from German fascism in 1944," Tass said in a dispatch from Riga.

"Among the participants... were many aged people, those who had endured from the times of Stalinism."

Suffered

The news agency reported smaller ceremonies in Lithuania and Estonia, neighbouring Baltic states whose residents also suffered under the brutal policies of Stalin.

Tass said the ceremonies were held to protest "the unlawful act" that forced "thousands of families" to leave the region and "to honour the memory of victims of Stalin's repressions."

The new agency noted that the deportations to Siberian labour camps where many Baltic residents died in harsh conditions — were being marked "for the first time."

Tass said "more than 31,000 deportees" were victimised in Latvia, but it was not clear whether the figure covered the entire decade or only 1941, when emigre sources say 17,000 Latvians were deported during the single night of June 13.

Memory

"We decided to give an opportunity to all citizens of the republic to reverse the memory of all those who fell victim to arbitrary actions during Stalin's personality cult," Tass quoted Riga city chairman Alfred Rubikskas as saying.

The central government's acknowledgement of the Latvian deportations is part of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's campaign to discredit Stalin's 29-year rule, which ended with his death in 1953. The government gesture may also represent an attempt to appease long-suppressed nationalist sentiment in the region.

Independent

Tass said the Latvian government had authorised the establishment in Riga of a monument to Stalin's victims. Authorities in other parts of the Soviet Union are currently debating similar steps.

Gorbachev, in an unprecedented bid to fill in "blank pages" of Soviet history, has in recent months released numerous details of Stalin's atrocities.

Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania became independent with the collapse of the Russian empire after the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution.

Young Pahlavi lacks his family's former imperial glory

Reza plans to regain the Peacock Throne

By Susan Elliott

ROSSLYN, Virginia, (Reuters): The late afternoon sunlight skims the head of Cyrus Reza Pahlavi II, greying his dark hair and ageing his 27-year-old features into the image of his late father, the former Shah of Iran.

But, though he has the family good looks and royal title, the young Shah lacks his family's former imperial glory.

Seventeen years ago his father, Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, whose titles then included King of Kings, Light of the Aryans and Vice Regent of God, celebrated 2,500 years of the Persian monarchy.

Regain

At the spectacular ruins of Persepolis, the ancient Persian capital, the Shah fêted guests from more than 60 countries in silk-linked tents and presented his son as crown prince.

Today, Iran is run by the government of Ayatollah Khomeini, the Shah lies buried in obscurity in Cairo and his son, who at 21 proclaimed himself monarch after his father's death, is giving an interview at a

Holiday Inn.

A vacuum cleaner hums along the corridor of the hotel, banging against the door of his suite.

"I would never have dreamed I would end up like this," Pahlavi says of his life as an exile from Iran.

The man aides call his majesty sips a glass of water and talks of his plans to regain the Peacock Throne.

"It's a sense of purpose. It's a sense of responsibility. It's a sense of mission," Pahlavi says through a haze of cigarette smoke.

Dressed soberly in grey flannel trousers, a checked jacket and maroon tie, he wears a Rolex watch and a simple gold wedding ring on his left hand.

Duty

"I feel like an intern on call," he says, after outlining his dream of a democratic Iran free of war and international stigma of terrorism.

While experts in the West dismiss his chances of returning to his homeland as sovereign as unlikely at best, he speaks of his plan as his reason for existence.

His goal, he says, is to re-



Reza Pahlavi

establish Iran's 1906 liberal parliamentary constitution providing a ceremonial role for the monarch, as in Spain.

"It just happens that having been the son of my father I have a duty to preserve and defend that constitution."

He says he travels between the United States and Europe meeting members of Iranian exile groups and maintaining daily contact with underground anti-Khomeini organisations inside

and outside Iran.

Some days, he says, his inability to meet people's expectations and the stress of his lifestyle depress him.

"I have my ups and downs frequently. And I tell you when you are down there it's hell," he says.

"It's very, very tough. I wouldn't wish it to anybody. If anybody wants to take my place and I had a choice in giving it to somebody else I'd do it immediately. But unfortunately I can't."

Pahlavi is remembered by many Americans as the "preppy prince" at an elite college in Massachusetts and at a military base in Texas where he qualified as a pilot.

Stress

Nowadays, he says, he has no time for his hobbies of flying and photography.

He speaks of the mental and physical stress of his life but is cagey about personal details and anxious to distance himself from the despotic, extravagant style of monarchy that led to his father's being ousted in a bloody revolution in 1979, and sparked reports

of the fortune with which the Pahlavis fled.

"It's absolutely false," Pahlavi says, raising his voice. "I'm not saying I'm poor," he quickly adds. "I do not have extraordinary means."

He says he lives on money from Iranian donors and family, and dismisses as "ridiculous" published reports that his home in Virginia, where he lives with his 19-year-old wife Yasmine and a few helpers, cost \$10 million and contains a black-walled discotheque that cost one million to design.

Undermine

He credits his enforced exile as the best preparation he could have had for an eventual life as Shah.

"The experience I have managed to harness... is I think the greatest education you could possibly receive," he says in formal English that is peppered with American phrases.

As an example of the breadth of his contact with "various class levels," he cites conversations with cab drivers and others such as hairdressers and airport security guards about famine,

revolutions, inequality, the poor, and AIDS.

Critics say his movement is disorganised and hampered by the fact that many of his advisers were courtiers of his father and therefore undermine his promise of a new-style monarchy.

In reply to questions why Iran should even want a monarchy again, Pahlavi says Iran's 48 million people have suffered more under Khomeini than under his father — whom he stoutly defends from accusations of unfairness.

"My father was not perfect. My father was not a God. My father was a human," he says. "He made mistakes too. So what."

Outsiders are sceptical of the size of monarchist support inside Iran despite Pahlavi's repeated reference to posters and demonstrations in the streets of Tehran in his favour.

"I think the days of monarchy are over," said one US administration official who requested anonymity.

The strongest anti-Khomeini group in Iran is currently the people's Mujahideen which is anti-Shah, the official said.



Some US leaders want drugs to be legalized

By Howard LaFranchi

AUSTIN, Texas: Amid continuing escalation of the war on drugs, a small but growing number of local and national leaders is suggesting that decriminalisation of marijuana, cocaine, and heroin may be the nation's best response to the drug epidemic.

Once an unthinkable proposition, supported only by such groups as NORML, the national organisation seeking legalization of marijuana, and the minute Libertarian Party, the idea of legalizing drugs is gaining converts in mainstream circles.

The call to legalize drugs, or at least to study such a move, is largely the result of the frustration building over drug-related crime and the perception that the drug war is unwinnable.

Baltimore Mayor Kurt L. Schmoke and Washington Mayor Marion Barry say public debate about legalization should be encouraged. William F. Buckley Jr., a conservative columnist and host of the television show "Firing Line," supports legalization.

Many elected officials and antidrug leaders have vehemently

opposed even considering decriminalisation as an option in the effort to lessen the harmful effects of narcotics. Among the most outspoken opponents is Rep. Charles Rangel (D) of New York, who published an article on the subject in the New York Times. But the very fact that such critics have joined the debate indicates that it is not about to go away.

Debate

"The idea is gaining a certain legitimacy as something that people should at least be willing to consider and debate," says Stephen J. Morse, a professor of law and psychiatry at the University of Southern California Law Centre. While holding back support of precipitous drug decriminalisation, Dr Morse says the topic deserves broader attention.

Proponents of legalization concede that the step would not solve all problems posed by drug abuse. But, they say, it would reduce crime and drug-related violence and free up billions of enforcement dollars for drug treatment and education.

The nation's 74-year-old

"experiment" with controlling drugs deemed harmful, has worked no better than prohibition of alcohol did in the 1920s, they add.

The new interest in drug legalization might seem to be coming at an unlikely time. Opinion polls show that concerns about the drug menace rank at or near the top of public concern, and presidential candidates in this election year are giving the topic more attention than ever before.

Violence

But proponents say that spiraling drug-related violence and burgeoning drug-sale profits in the face of the stepped up, multi-billion-dollar war on drugs offer further proof that banning something like drugs does not work. At the very least, advocates of public debate on the topic say alternatives to an expensive and endless war should be considered.

"There is almost universal agreement that the war on drugs, as waged to date, has not succeeded," Morse says. "If we're seeing interest in decriminalisation, it's because people are looking for possible alternative solutions."

Morse says public frustration over current policies toward the drug trade and drug abuse could grow if candidates now advocating tougher antidrug measures are unable to offer results once in office.

Civil libertarians are concerned that the zeal to win the drug war is leading to violations of basic individual freedoms. As evidence of an increased willingness to disregard individual rights in behalf of the drug war, civil libertarians cite increased drug testing, congressional votes to enlist the military in the drug battle, and federal policies such as "zero tolerance," under which vehicles and boats holding even minimal amounts of illegal drugs are being seized.

"In recent months we have seen the war on drugs whip the nation to new heights of hysteria," says Erich Schwarz, a Libertarian candidate for the Texas House of Representatives. The Libertarian Party has long advocated legalization of drugs, based on its opposition to almost all forms of government control.

The Christian Science Monitor News Service.

Socialism at a turning point

By Jim Abrams

BEIJING, (AP): "Efficiency is life. Time is money," reads a large billboard in a provincial capital, signalling a dramatic sign of the times in a country where people take political slogans seriously.

It is also an indication of how Communist Party ideologists, the minders and shapers of public opinion, have been backed into a corner by China's rapid acceptance of such affronts to Marxist doctrine as private ownership, shareholding and stock markets.

"Socialism is at a turning point now," said Cui Piting, assistant dean of the Communist Party Central Committee College, a training ground for ideologists. "And the study of theory lags behind the realities of China."

Prosperous

Ideology has been in a state of flux since Deng Xiaoping, the pragmatist famed for saying, "It doesn't matter if a cat is black or white as long as it catches mice," came to power 10 years ago.

Today most Chinese, liberated from Mao Tse Tung's "little red book" and the political dogma that once intruded into every aspect of life, think about getting better pay and coping with rising prices. Few worry whether they are good socialists.

"As long as the economy is prosperous and living standards are raised, our purpose is fulfilled," said prominent economist Li Yining. "People will see that socialism is not connected

with poverty but wealth."

Traditional theorists are clearly on the defensive. This month the party will publish its last issue of the journal "Red Flag" which for 30 years, and with much turgid prose, had been the party dogma-setter.

In its place the party will come out with a journal called "Seeking Truth" which concentrates on economic reforms and political democratization.

Remolding

Party leader Zhao Ziyang, a leading reformist, announced at a major party conference last fall that China will be in the "primary stage" of socialism through the middle of the next century.

Zhao told economic planners they had the licence to adapt capitalist practices as long as they advanced the national goal of developing the economy. Party propagandists hailed Zhao's laissez-faire approach to socialism, which in effect minimized the need for ideology to back up policy.

Theorists, though, insist that China will remain a socialist country and they have the vital task of remolding and defining socialism to meet China's changing needs.

By adopting heterodox approaches to Marx and capitalism, they are trying to give legitimacy to reforms that have brought to China TV commercials promoting consumption, free markets taking away business from state stores and millionaires with servants.

"To promote reforms we must

make breakthroughs in theory," said Zhao Yao, dean of the party college.

Many of the new theories being put forth today say Marx, writing in the 19th century, can't explain the modern relationship between socialism and capitalism. Man's insistence on class struggle over economic development, theorists say, was a disaster for China.

China's former model, the Soviet Union, has failed to match the economic energy of capitalist countries, leading social scientists Li Hongbin recently wrote, and "this damaged the image of socialism."

He said, "socialism is not a cake that can be ordered, and there is no fixed pattern for socialism."

Capitalism was once dismissed as the evil opposite of socialism, "but we now believe that was wrong," said college dean Zhao. "Capitalism has absorbed things from socialism. Now we should absorb some good things from capitalism."

China's 18 million private entrepreneurs have become "an important auxiliary part" of the economy, Zhao said. Shareholding, private ownership of property, the civil servant system and even the democratic process are other capitalist practices that can be of use to Chinese socialism, the party school theorists said.

To help set the record straight, the Chinese Academy of Social Science has made the restudying of socialism one of its top research projects to be started this year.

Ozal's reforms change Turkey

to British Minister Margaret Thatcher, one of his mentors.

Ozal's aides accused big business, discredited by new foreign competition, of being behind much of the media criticism aimed at him, even though efficient banks and businesses flourished.

His party won the November 1983 general election with a big majority after the then ruling military had excluded all but two other parties from the poll.

Reforms

Soon afterwards, Ozal declared that far-reaching free-market economic reforms were the only way to solve the country's monetary and political problems. He promised to cut inflation, unemployment and a growing balance of payments deficit.

During and after that campaign Ozal proved himself a charismatic leader and fluent speaker. A chubby, affable man, he seemed equally at home addressing groups in New York bankers as Anatolian peasants.

In foreign policy, Ozal fostered relations with Middle East states, including Gulf war enemies Iran and Iraq, but he remained firmly committed to NATO and eventual membership of the European Economic Community.

Officials described Turkey's ties with its huge neighbour the Soviet Union as "correct" and Ozal promised a more active foreign policy, especially with NATO ally Greece.

This led to the historic three-day visit he paid to Athens, the first to Greece by a Turkish prime minister in 36 years.

His election victory in 1983 came despite clear signs from President Kenan Evren that he preferred someone else to con-

tinue sweeping changes in the country's political and social structure, begun by the military after a coup in September 1980.

The coup was staged to end growing political violence, which had claimed 5,000 lives and which parliament had been powerless to stop.

Ozal served as deputy prime minister from 1980 to July 1982, when he was in charge of the economy, but he stepped down after his policy of freeing interest rates led to rash of failures among finance broking houses.

The changes introduced by the military, especially a constitution imposing many restrictions and banning former political leaders from politics, continued to overshadow Turkey under Ozal.

Ozal was repeatedly called on to defend Turkey's human rights record, especially the continuation of political trials begun by the military.

Failed

In the 1970s, Ozal, known for his strong Muslim beliefs, failed to win election as a candidate for a Muslim fundamentalist party. Later, however, he distanced himself from a traditional Muslim image and publicly held hands with his influential, cigar-smoking wife Semra.

He graduated in electrical engineering from Istanbul Technical University in 1950 and between 1965 and 1967 was an adviser to Prime Minister Demirel.

Until 1971 he was head of the State Planning Organisation and then worked for the World Bank in Washington for three years as a project director before returning to Turkey to work in industry.

In 1979 he became acting head of the State Planning Organisation before once again working as an aide to Demirel.

السلامة والعدل

Investment dries up for film industry

Australia's leaking 'cultural flagship'

By David Clark Scott

SYDNEY: Australia's "cultural flagship" — as actor Sam Neill calls the film industry — is leaking badly. And directors, producers, and actors are manning the publicity pumps to keep the industry afloat.

A year ago at this time, 64 films, TV miniseries, and documentaries were in the works. Now, only four are on tap. And no projects are slated for after July 1.

What's happened? Private investment money for Australian-made films has dried up. So the movie industry here is lobbying the federal government to take steps to keep the cameras rolling.

After nearly a decade of producing such globally acclaimed films as "Picnic at Hanging Rock," "Breaker Morant," "My Brilliant Career," and "Crocodile Dundee," it would be "a tragedy if it all went down the gurgler," says Philip Adams, chairman of the Australian Film Commission, which supports cinema and television film production, distribution, and marketing.

Cynics say this is just the annual "cry wolf" chorus that erupts before the federal budget proposals in May. But this year, filmmakers face a real crisis.

An overall drop in income tax rates, coupled with a reduction in the tax write-off allowed for film investments, has cut private investment in screen and television ventures from \$180 million (Australian; US\$130 million) in 1986-87 to an estimated \$45 million (US\$32 million) this year.

Also, from here to Hollywood, the October stock market crash has meant that at the front end there's less ready cash for financing risky projects, such as films. And at the back end, distributors facing uncertain markets are paying less for produced films.

To stave off nearly total collapse of the Australian film industry, two solutions are being floated. First, to ramp up tax incentives to make films more attractive to investors.



Paul Hogan in Crocodile Dundee II, perhaps the final fling of a once-vibrant industry.

Second, to set up a film finance corporation, or "film bank."

The latter is most politically popular.

The bank would be a government-owned corporation designed to provide venture capital and loans to produce movies.

It would differ from a traditional bank, by accepting riskier projects, and would likely run an annual loss. (On average, only 1 in 5 films is profitable.) That loss would be covered by an annual federal grant of \$356 million, which would underpin a production base of \$1.2 billion (or about 20 feature films, 12 to 14 miniseries, 16 to 18 TV movies, and 40 to 50 documentaries), according to a feasibility study by Coopers & Lybrand W.D. Scott, an accounting firm.

Currently, about \$519 million in government subsidies for experimental films, scripts, and youth technical training, is allocated through

the film commission. But to "sustain a film and television industry in a domestic market of only 16 million people will require a further federal support," says Kim Williams, executive director of the commission, only the United States did not receive government funds directly, but it does receive tax incentives.

The film bank and other proposals have been on the table since April last year. But it has taken the actual slump in production to awaken the Australian Parliament to the problem.

In February, after meeting with industry officials, the Minister for the Arts and Territories, Gary Punch, said, "We're not going to let down the Australian film industry. We intend to make sure it continues to operate at a high level."

Money is tight, however. The ruling Labour Party has gen-

erally not been eager for industry assistance. Treasury officials and privatisation proponents are known to be cool to the film bank concept. And the budget balancers are even less fond of the \$255 million bridge loan, also requested to keep the spotlights on until a new financing system is introduced.

In fact, government sources say the bridge loan won't be approved. Later this month Punch is expected to announce support for a modified film bank concept. The film industry will survive, sources say, but in a shrunken form.

Why should government subsidise an industry of 3,000 people if it's largely "uneconomical"? Industry officials argue that films are the most effective way of exporting Australian culture, and thereby generating not only goodwill but more business for Australia.

"Films are the front line troops. They go first. The US film industry has created an interest in and an aura around American products in the rest of the world," says Chris Noonan, president of the Australian Screen Directors Association.

To some extent, Australian films have succeeded in this way, he notes. The blockbuster hit "Crocodile Dundee," for example, has prompted tourists to visit Australia. And it has fuelled interest in Australian-made beer, clothing, and restaurants — products and enterprises now flourishing in the United States.

A native film industry enables Australians to understand their own society by putting their lives, landscape, and history on the screen.

"We can watch Australians being heroes, speaking with Australian accents," instead of relying on British or American role models, says Noonan. Williams at the film commission echoes that sentiment by noting a surge over the last decade here in the popularity of Australian television programming.

The Christian Science Monitor News Service

Twists, turns, red herrings in Christie mystery

By Tracey Weeks

THE latest Agatha Christie murder mystery to be turned into a film is Appointment With Death.

The film is set in 1937 in the city of Acre and occupied Jerusalem and includes Hayley Mills, Lauren Bacall and Sir John Gielgud among its cast.

Peter Ustinov has played the portly Belgian sleuth, who has impeccable manners and invaluable powers of mental deduction, in Agatha Christie's "The Queen of Crime" — "Death On The Nile" (1978) and in "Evil Under The Sun" (1982).

But in this his latest venture as the famous "fat in Appointment With Death, Ustinov is only one of glittering array of stars.

Lauren Bacall plays an American-born British Member of Parliament, Lady Westholme. Hayley Mills stars as Miss Quinton, Sir John Gielgud is Colonel Cartwright and powerful Mrs Boynton is portrayed by Piper Laurie while her nurse and daughter-in-law Nadine Boynton, is played by Carrie Fisher.

Jenny Seagrove — Michael Winner's current girlfriend — plays Sarah King and American singing star David Soul plays the Boynton's devious lawyer, Jefferson Cope.



Lauren Bacall in a scene from Appointment with Death.



Peter Ustinov as Hercule Poirot in Appointment with Death, the new Christie movie.

The sets for Appointment With Death were based on thousands of old photographs, magazines and newsreel shots. Director Michael Winner wanted everything to look just right. That includes sights such as the Red Sea archaeological site at Qumran, where they found the Dead Sea Scrolls ... and where the murderer strikes.

Winner is a long-time fan of Agatha Christie — especially of her humour and mystery. Winner says: "The great thing about Agatha Christie is her sense of fun."

"Her stories are full of wry jokes, nimble-witted observations and all variety of humorous situations."

Agatha Christie wrote Appointment With Death during her marriage to Max Mallon, a well-known archaeologist.

But as usual the story is full of twists, turns and red herrings that will thrill whodunnit fans. Only at the end is truth discovered when Poirot untangles the web of intrigue and unmasks the real culprit.



The actors who star as the new recruits in the TV series "Nam — Tour of Duty"

War over Vietnam film

By Jilly Weber

THE bullets ricochet overhead in a horrifying rain of terror. The blood looks so real it could be warm.

This is Vietnam ... and it's sheer murder ...

For America's most violent TV show is on air ... and the action is as shocking as ever.

But now the \$20 million series Nam — Tour of Duty is to be screened around the world. And everyone is bracing themselves for a sight almost worse than the real-life that took place 20 years ago.

The TV series tells the story of a hand of young recruits, from different sections of society, who fight together in the early days of the Vietnam War.

But already the series has caused a storm of protest in America and now it is sure to send shock waves round the rest of the world.

Its critics say it is too violent. Scenes include the killing of one soldier by his own comrades after an argument over race.

Another recruit kills himself after he is disfigured by his wounds.

In fact, the bloody battle scenes are so realistic that one lead actor narrowly escaped injury when a plank blew up in his face.

But executive producer Zev Braun, defends his film saying: "It doesn't celebrate violence. One critic even said every bit of the violence was justified."

The series is really anti-violence because it shows the terrible effects of war.

"We hope it will help the healing process in America. Veterans were spat on when they first came home."

The series, which is written by two black Vietnam veterans, is the first TV series ever about the Vietnam war. It focuses on a single platoon of young US soldiers during their one-year tour of combat duty in Vietnam during the late 1960s.

Terence Knox, who played Dr White in the Hospital soap St Elsewhere, stars as the company's sergeant, and Dynasty actor Stephen Caffrey, plays the company commander, Captain Rusty Wallace.

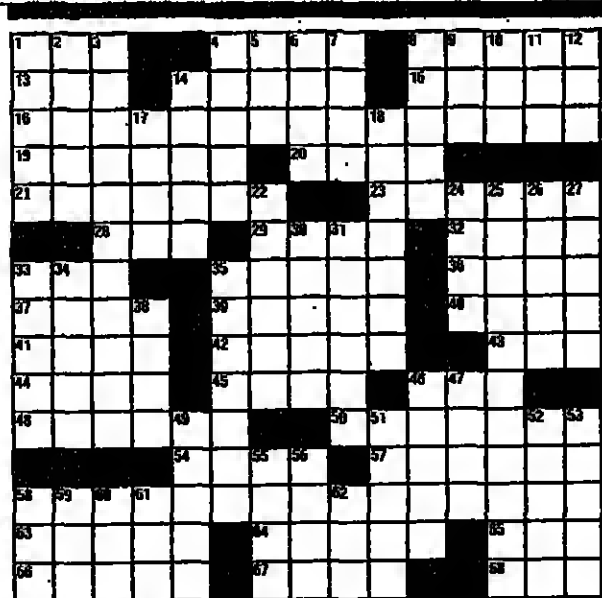
Their infantile men come from every walk of life — one is a Puerto Rican streetfighter, one a Southern Californian surfer and another an anti-war dropout from Chicago.

In spite of their differences, they all have one thing in common — they must depend on one another to get through the war alive.

In episode one the young recruits go to battle for the first time, over land ridden with booby traps and sniper fire.

Zev Braun says: "Tour of Duty goes beyond the massive political turmoil caused by the Vietnam war and attempts to portray the human side of the conflict. Nearly three million American servicemen were sent overseas, and more than 57,000 of them never came back."

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS
- Swiss river to the Rhine
 - Tia game
 - Desire
 - Magnon man
 - Geacho's rope
 - One of the Pillars of Hercules
 - Alaut
 - Strong — ox
 - Assai for a sailor
 - Halter
 - Naitnar's partner
 - Formerly, formerly
 - Steak order
 - a ball (enjoyed himself)
 - Robert, the — of Scotland
 - Samovars
 - Makes a faux pas
 - Electronic detector
 - Blue-pencil
 - Soon
 - Miras
 - DDE's opponent
 - Mah-jongg playing piece
 - Actress Miles
 - Letters at the end of a letter
 - Montana's capital
 - Poems to be sung
 - Hoosier humorist et al.
 - Leone
 - Advice to a headache person
- DOWN
- Actress Papes
 - Took on
 - Auditor: Abbr.
 - Salamanders
 - Sign
 - Writer Kesay
 - Land measures
 - Came up
 - Disco music
 - Ramova condensed moisture
 - Scott Joplin opus
 - Where Bangladesh is
 - Spiders' traps
 - Long-necked bird
 - Wildcatter's find
 - Cistern
 - Zeta follower
 - Salt
 - Promising one
 - Before gram or meter
 - Rodent-catching dogs
 - Mexican wrap
 - Faithful
 - Solid
 - "Sesame Street" character
 - Takes five
 - Less civil
 - Sacred beetle
 - Moop
 - PGA's Palmer
 - Defiant show of courage
 - Snick-or—
 - Practiced diligently
 - One of the common people, for short
 - Nostrils
 - Pale
 - Hang
 - limply
 - Old Nick
 - Reverberate
 - Remove the cream
 - Noise
 - Pay dirt
 - Noval
 - Explosive
 - Three, in Milan

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

CASIT VAIRED STAR
OPAH ERDSE PERU
MICROSCOPE ALAS
ASSORTER PARENT
NEED GENTS
THEME CONTACTS
BOOS SWARD NORA
ORR ARE PUP
AMOS SIENA JETS
RESPECTS STASH
GALLS TSAR
EPONYM TAILGATE
TOPI PERISCOPIES
ALES EVENT NILLS
LASH RESTS SALE

GOREN BRIDGE

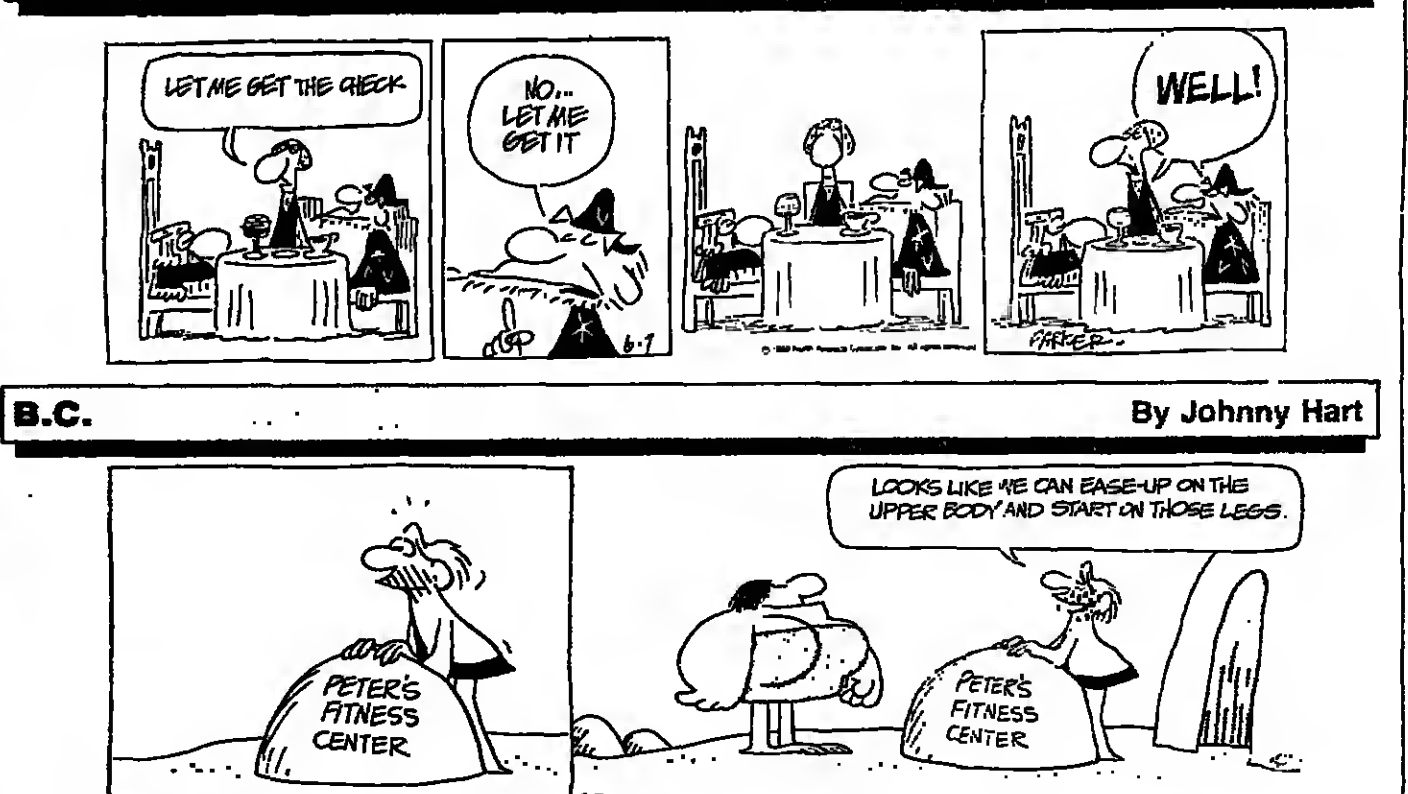
BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠7 ♥AQ6 ♦AQ983 ♣AQ7
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with three spades. What action do you take?
- Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AQ ♥J762 ♦AKK3 ♣K95
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
3 ♠ Pass Pass ?
What action do you take?
- Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠7 ♥Q953 ♦AJ72 ♣KJ63
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with three spades. What action do you take?
- Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠7 ♥Q953 ♦AJ72 ♣KJ63
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
1 ♠ Dbl Pass 1 ♥
?
What action do you take?
- Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠KQ7 ♥K3 ♦KQ93 ♣AQJ6
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
1 ♠ Dbl Pass 1 ♥
?
What do you bid now?
- Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠KQ72 ♥A763 ♦5 ♣QJ062
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
1 ♠ Dbl Pass 1 ♠
?
What action do you take?



THE WIZARD OF ID

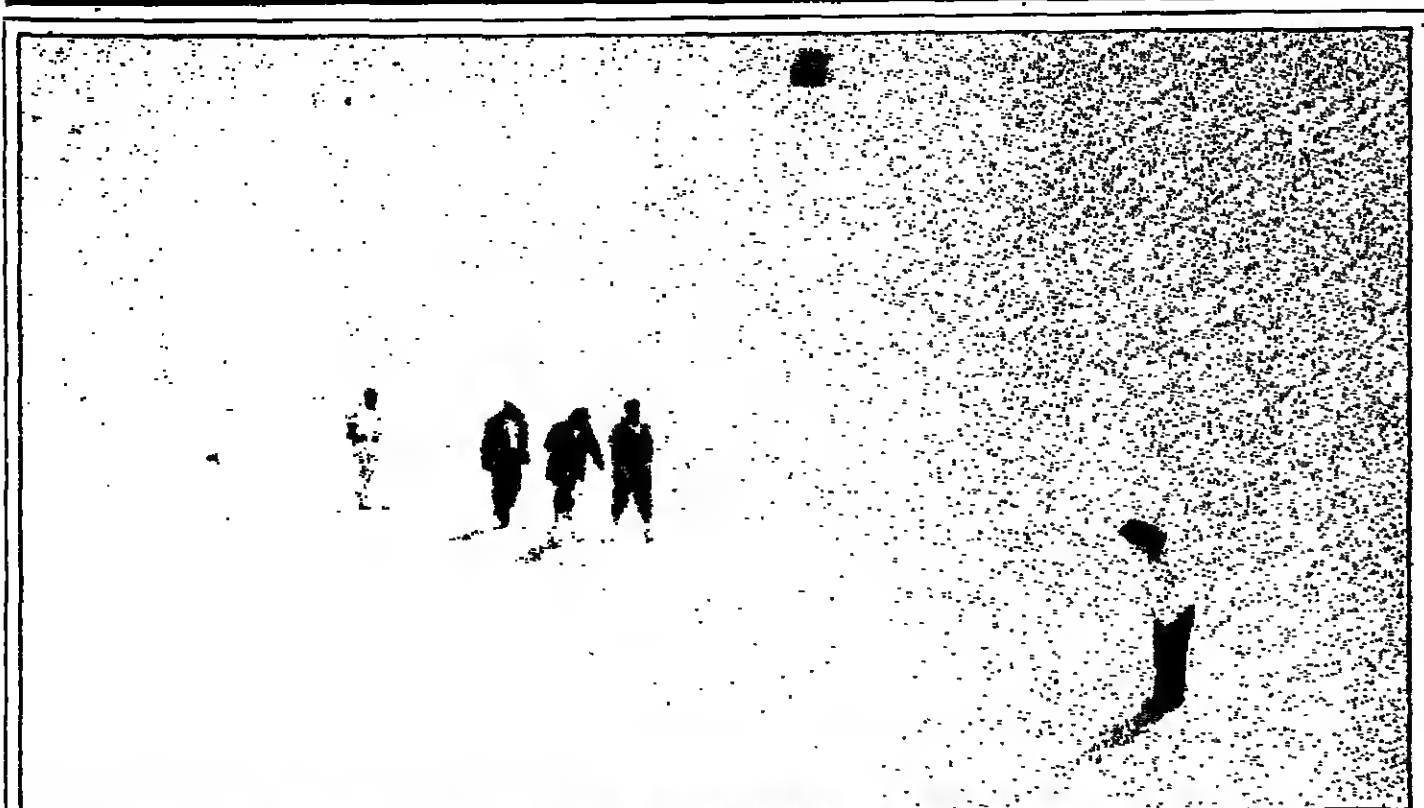
By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

- Aries (March 20 - April 18)
You will have to use a little more commonsense and you should also try to show a little more goodwill. Try to avoid doing anything that is not quite right in the circumstances.
- Taurus (April 19 - May 19)
You should not show ill will towards others. Avoid losing time on secondary matters and learn to perceive what is important. You should not place too much reliance on good luck. Be candid.
- Gemini (May 20 - June 20)
This is not going to be your lucky day, but you should not have any bad luck either. You must have a little more faith in yourself. Make sure that your partner is fully aware of your love. Be less impulsive.
- Cancer (June 21 - July 21)
You will be better able to distinguish between what really is and what only seems to be. You should not postpone what you know ought to be done right away. Do not become too reliant on gadgets.
- Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)
You will have something to be pleased about but must not lower your standards. Continue trying to do better than others, but do not boast. Leave yourself with a little more room for maneuver. Be loyal.
- Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)
Today something will happen to reassure you. You will tend to be more irritable and should make more effort to control yourself. Try to avoid having a late night. Be less credulous.
- Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)
You will find it easier to persuade others, but do not try to deceive them. You have no reason to lose confidence in yourself, on the contrary. You may have some good luck, but must not rely on it. Be a little more realistic.
- Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)
You will feel a little unsure of yourself but will soon find your feet again. You should try to avoid getting into an argument. Do not think you are the only one who knows anything. Be polite.
- Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)
You will be better able to deal with a rather involved situation. You should listen more closely to what others have to say. Avoid doing anything that would give rise to resentments. Be forgiving.
- Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)
You should concentrate on essentials without altogether losing sight of details. Leave yourself with a little more time to deal with a personal matter. You are more liable to be charged with speeding so take extra care. Be careful.
- Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)
You will be more at peace with yourself. If you try to do two things at once you will do neither well. You should take a little better care of your health. Be considerate.
- Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)
You are all too liable to lose sight of your objectives. Do not do anything just in order to curry favour. Make sure you do not break a promise. Be less pessimistic.

ENVIRONMENT



The Taklamakan 'Desert of no Return' in Qira county, China. This desert has been swallowing up land and travellers for centuries. Its sands are said to cover the ruins of lost city-states which flourished from 1000 to 3000 years ago on the Silk Road.

Despite massive afforestation, vast areas under siege

Desert eroding farmland in China

By Andrew Roche

TAKLAMAKAN DESERT. China. (Reuters): The oasis of Qira county on China's ancient Silk Road is under siege from the Taklamakan 'desert of no return', which has been swallowing land, travellers and whole cities for centuries.

Until recently the desert, helped by Maoist policies which triggered ecological disaster, was winning. Chinese scientists now say the sands are retreating, but slowly.

Life for the 20,000 mostly Muslim Uygur people of Qira county was always hard, but their real troubles began in 1958 when chairman Mao Tse-tung's 'Great Leap Forward' called for massive expansion of rural industry.

Fuel ran short and peasants felled banyan trees which were the only barrier between the desert and their fruit and cotton plantations.

The migration of millions of settlers to China's far west, answering Mao's call to 'open up the wilderness' strained the scarce water resources of the Xinjiang region.

During the great leap forward and the '10 years of chaos' of the Cultural Revolution between 1966 and 1976, villages such as Turpan on the fringe of the Qira oasis lost half their arable land to the dunes, said biologist Liu Mingting.

'The peasants started moving out,' said Liu, who works at a base in Qira trying to find ways to stop an encroaching desert, which archaeologists say hastened the collapse of thriving cities in Xinjiang more than 1,000 years ago.

Abated

Since the late 1970s — when China began to admit Mao's blunders — scientists have planted banks of hardy shrubs which need water only once a year. Fifty peasants have been appointed 'tree guardians'.

The scientists say they have reclaimed about 470 hectares (1,170 acres) of the 1,000 (2,500 acres) lost to the sands since the 1950s. But the Taklamakan can still fight back.

In 1986, a sandstorm swept out of the desert without warning, turning a sunny day black as night and killing between 10

and 20 people.

When the storm abated, one of the shrub barriers was buried under nine metres (30 feet) of fine sand, and 90 per cent of the local cotton crop had been destroyed.

'Qira county is lucky to have been selected as an experimental site because it receives government funds. Other places in Xinjiang are still losing their land,' Liu said.

Despite a massive afforestation drive, deserts are still eroding farmland across the whole of north and west China, with about 120,000 square km (46,000 square miles) under immediate threat, according to official figures.

One sign of Xinjiang's water shortage is the disappearance of the Lop Nor Lake close to China's top-secret nuclear bomb test site east of the Taklamakan desert.

The diversion of feeder rivers for irrigation and industry drained the lake in 1967 and turned nearby pastures used by nomadic herdsmen barren.

The Taklamakan's sands cover the ruins of lost city-states which flourished from

1,000 to 3,000 years ago on the Silk Road between East and West.

Many are unexcavated but Chinese archaeologists believe the Mongol conqueror Genghis Khan, the spread of Islam, and the encroaching desert together put paid to the mostly Buddhist cities.

Chinese scientists say that if water sources such as mountain flash floods are properly harnessed, the Xinjiang region, three times the size of France and rich in oil and minerals, could support twice its present 14 million people.

Peking's enthusiasm for opening up Xinjiang with massive government investment appears to have waned in the 1980s, the current policy being to allow China's developed eastern seaboard to forge ahead first.

But there have often been differences of opinion over Xinjiang and its hostile desert. Some scholars argue that Taklamakan means 'grape garden' in ancient Uygur language, but most prefer the grimmer translation — 'once you've gone in, you don't come out.'

Another potentially harmful environmental stress factor

Add acid dew to list of spoilers

By Jim Barber

ATLANTA, (UPI): First, there was acid rain to spoil forests, kill aquatic life and destroy soil nutrients. Now, there's acid dew.

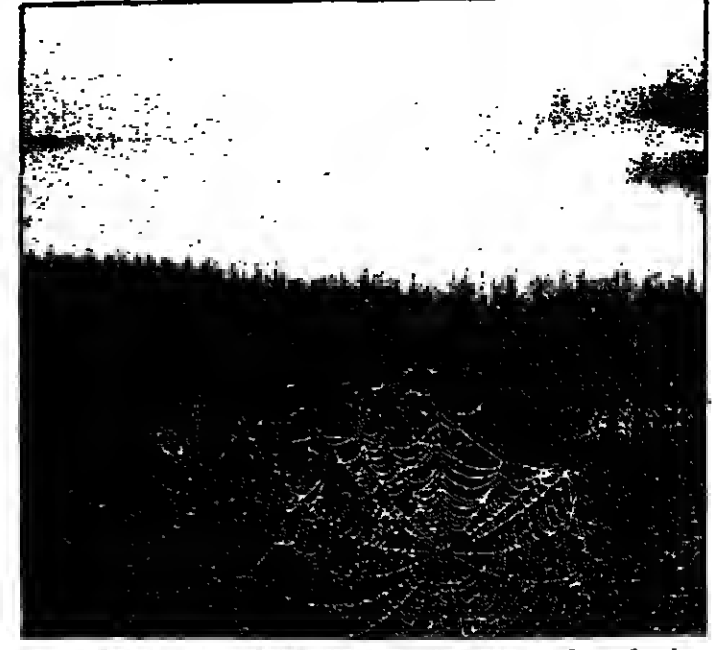
Acid dew is not new, but only recently have researchers identified it as another potentially harmful environmental stress caused by the emission of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide from industries and motor vehicles.

'The concept of what I call acid dew occurs when little drops of water form on the leaf and then acidic species get incorporated into the drops through the night,' said Dr William Chameides, a professor of geophysical sciences at Georgia Tech, who recently published the first acid dew research in the *Journal of Geophysical Research*.

Then, they (acidic compounds) oxidize in the moisture to form an acidic solution which increases in acidity as the water evaporates in the heat of the day,' Chameides said.

In contrast, acid rain forms when sulfur and nitrogen combine in the atmosphere with oxygen, hydrogen and solar energy. The acids are then dissolved in the clouds before falling to earth in the form of acidic precipitation.

'The acidity in dew is much



Acid dew occurs when little drops of water form on the leaf and acidic species get incorporated into the drops through the night.

more smaller than what is brought to the earth's surface in rain drops,' Chameides said. 'You may wind up with very high acidity. The question is whether these spots harm plants.'

'They may cause a hole to form in the cuticle, the outside part of the leaf, which would be an entry point for insects or fungi,' he said.

Chameides used a sophisticated computer model to study the formation of acid dew and his computer predictions have been supported by limited field studies.

Although Chameides is positive acid rain is more harmful than acid dew, he said more field work is needed to document the extent of the problem. In fact, he refused to speculate on specific problems acid dew can cause.

'When you start talking like that, you become an alarmist,' he said. 'There are a number of things affecting agriculture and forests that might be related to pollution — like acid rain and ozone damage. All these things have an effect.'

'What happens when a tree dies or crops fail is related to a number of stresses — including natural stresses like drought or insect attacks. It's possible acid dew is just one more way pollutants can harm plants.'

Sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide — the two main pollutants in acid deposition — originate mainly from motor vehicles and industries that burn fossil fuels, such as coal-fired electrical generating stations and metal and petroleum refineries.

Chameides' study of the dry deposition of pollutants has important implications for costly efforts to reduce industrial and motor vehicle pollution in the United States and Canada.

Currently regulatory efforts assume a reduction in emissions will have a direct, or linear, effect on the level of pollutants such as acid rain. Ideally, 50 per cent reduction in emissions should reduce the problem by one-half.

Chameides disagrees and said emissions control 'may not be as efficient or effective as it seems.'

Scientists fear new rise in greenhouse effect

By Robert Matthews

BRITISH scientists have uncovered more evidence that the Earth's atmosphere is being choked by pollution, forcing the world into a 'greenhouse effect' of global warming.

A computer analysis of international data completed by the climatic research unit at University of East Anglia shows that last year's global temperature was the highest recorded. The finding confirms a trend which has persisted in the 1980s.

The average temperature for the year was 0.33C higher than the global average of 15C for 1950-1979. 'The previous record was set in 1983.

Dr Phil Jones, senior research associate at the unit, said that the findings 'are not inconsistent' with the greenhouse effect, in which carbon dioxide and other pollution traps in the sun's heat, forcing up the global temperature.

Similar conclusions have been reached by scientists in the United States and Russia who have also been monitoring the temperature rise.

He said that scientists had sought other explanations for the rise, such as increased solar activity and levels of light-reflecting volcanic dust, but only the greenhouse effect could account for the long-term trend.

Although the increase in

temperature is small, scientists fear that the warming could have dramatic long-term consequences for the planet.

Relatively modest increases are capable of altering the level of the seas through the melting of the ice caps and the expansion of the oceans as they warm up, leading to flooding.

The world's weather systems could be radically altered as well.

In research to be published later this year, the unit found that the warming experienced to date has produced widely different effects.

Alaska and the Yukon have experienced the biggest temperature rises so far but Scandinavia's average temperature

has decreased slightly, while Western Europe, including British, has hardly experienced any change at all.

Burning of fossil fuels, such as coal, is believed to be responsible for as much as 90 per cent of the carbon dioxide entering the atmosphere.

However, Dr Jones said that reaching an international agreement to reduce the emissions would be difficult to achieve, as some countries benefit from the greenhouse effect.

Mathematical models of the Earth's atmosphere predict that the rate of the warming will increase during the coming decades, he added. That makes international action increasingly important.

Alarming UN scenario for Mediterranean in 40 years

A report by UN scientists working from 140 labs around the Mediterranean basin, forecasts that 'the world's dirtiest sea' will turn into a dying, overpopulated lake.

By Lee Stokes

ATHENS, (UPI): A United Nations report predicts that 'the world's dirtiest sea,' the Mediterranean, will turn into a dying, overpopulated lake within 40 years.

The report, to be published later this year, was compiled by UN scientists working from 140 labs around the Mediterranean basin. It forecasts that Muslim populations of North Africa and Turkey will double by the next century, requiring more food, pesticides, fertilizers and heavy industry.

This means more sewage and more dangerous pollutants will be pumped into a dying sea — dying largely because of land-based pollutants, and not oil slicks as commonly believed.

The Blue Plan, coordinated in Athens by the United Nations environment programme, 'aims to forecast the future of the Mediterranean 40 years from now,' said Aldo Manos, an Italian coordinator of Unep projects.

'This is a pioneering study and very useful as an advisory for governments to enable them to formulate plans and programmes before it is too late.'

Most Mediterranean governments formulate economic and industrial development plans stretching over five years. Scientists consider this too short for nature's slower ways.

'When you plan for the environment, you have to plan from now for the year 2025,' Manos said.

Demographers say the Mediterranean, surrounded by 200 million residents and tourists, is now at the moment where populations to the north and those to the south are in complete balance.

Two decades, there were more people living along the northern shores of what is often described as the world's dirtiest sea. In as little as two more decades, high birth rates will

mean more residents along the southern shores.

The Blue Plan estimates the population explosion in the poorer Mediterranean countries will cause severe strains on both the environment and social services.

Richer north Mediterranean countries such as France, Italy, Spain and Greece are already seeing birth rates decline and will probably see their populations shrink dramatically by the end of the century.

'The richer countries of the north and the poorer countries of the south must plan together if they want a better future,' Manos said.

Yet, in what Mediterranean technocrats see as vicious circle, rapidly increasing populations in the southern basin will lead to sharply increasing demand for food and consumer products, which in turn means even greater use of polluting pesticides and fertilizers.

More consumer goods mean more industry and more waste. And more people means more sewage.

At present 90 per cent of the sewage dumped into the Mediterranean every day is untreated. Important cities such as Athens still do not have a city sewage system.

Dr Mostapha Tolha, the Egyptian head of Unep, estimates it will take \$30 billion over the next decade to clean up the Mediterranean. Unep now receives only a tiny fraction of the amount needed, some \$5 million a year, for its work.

Unep rejects arguments that the problems are impossible to solve.

UN officials have been trying to persuade richer northern Mediterranean countries to give the one thing their southern neighbours needed — cash.

'Problems in the south will spill over to the north, so it is better if all the Mediterranean countries start work together from now on,' a UN scientist said.

Co-ordinating a policy for a sea bordered by 18 countries of

diverse cultures and traditions is not easy. Unlike Europe, the Mediterranean countries lack regional institutions. There is no Mediterranean investment bank to dump money into infrastructure and other projects which affect the whole region.

Thirteen years after the Mediterranean nations gathered in Barcelona to agree to clean up their sea, 11 of the 18 countries still have not ratified the treaty to combat land-based sources of pollution.

The worst pollutant is mercury, 500 tonnes of which enter the sea every year from factories, volcanoes and rivers.

Combined with the untreated sewage and other pollutants fouling the Mediterranean, this has made one in five of the sea's beaches unsafe for swimming and only 4 per cent of its shellfish fit for human consumption.

'Fishing is common to all the Mediterranean countries, since fish breed in one place, are caught in another and are eaten in another,' Manos said. 'But there is still no body to enforce needed fishing regulations.'

Hasty Mediterranean tourist growth such as on Spain's Costa Brava, Italy's Adriatic coast and the French Riviera has damaged nature, drained supplies of pure water and filled sewage pipes to capacity.

Unep says governments must act now to create marine parks and protect many endangered species like the monk seal from extinction.

Poorer countries think it is unfair that they should bear the financial burden of protecting the environment for their richer neighbours.

The UN report suggests the north should give what it has — cash — and the south give what it has — a species to be saved or a marine park to be created.

'All governments are now aware that pollution does not pay,' Manos said. 'And no government or company wants to be branded as a killer of nature.'

Hong Kong — no longer the fragrant harbour of China

By Mitya New

HONG KONG, (Reuters): The fragrant harbour — the Chinese name for Hong Kong — is these days befouled by sewage and industrial water and is in danger of becoming a major maritime pollution zone unless rapid action is taken, experts say.

King crabs have been seen clawing desperately on the sea surface in search of oxygen, a local politician has said bathers should not immerse the head and an American abandoned a swimming record attempt, partly because of pollution.

Brian Morton, professor of zoology at Hong Kong University, said of the centre of Hong Kong's lucrative fish farming

terologically unfit for swimmers.

John Hodgkiss, senior botany lecturer at the university, argues that the way water pollution is measured at the beaches is 'to say the least questionable.'

He quotes a 1986 university study that applied World Health Organisation standards to the most popular beaches and found that many at present open to the public should have been closed.

Paul Holmes, principal environmental protection officer at the Environmental Protection Department (EPD), rejected international comparisons as 'demonstrably entirely irrelevant,' to Hong Kong.

'We are talking about the risk of minor ailments, about

In the waters of the fragrant harbour, (the Chinese name for Hong Kong) king crabs have been seen clawing desperately on the sea surface in search of oxygen; a local politician has said bathers should not immerse the head and an American abandoned a swimming record attempt — all because of pollution.

industry. 'The water is dead, and the sea-bed sediments have absorbed nutrients that will continue by a process of osmosis to pollute the water for decades.'

Morton was speaking about Tolo, the British colony's only water control zone and therefore subject to pollution restrictions.

Tolo suffers from a continuous red tide, a form of algae which feeds on pollution and suffocates marine life by absorbing the oxygen in water. Red tide was previously a seasonal phenomenon.

Closed

But water pollution is not limited to Tolo. It has spread to Hong Kong's beaches, which range from secluded islets to packed bathing sands.

Five beaches are to be closed this swimming season, but environmentalists and scientists have long claimed that the water at many more is bac-

minor digestive disorders and not about major illnesses,' he said.

But one local councillor, Joseph Chan, exasperated with the pollution at a popular beach where a leaking sewage pipeline has contaminated the water, suggested that perhaps swimmers should develop a new stroke that avoids submersion of the head.

US lawyer Theodore Epstein, using a conventional stroke and bolstered by typhoid and hepatitis vaccinations, gave up an attempt this month to become the first person to swim around Hong Kong island, defeated by currents but also by effluents.

Industrial lobbies have resisted further water control zones and have found ways around what environmental legislation there is.

Factories which spewed waste into Tolo inlet before April 1, 1987, when the water



Two beach-cleaners collect garbage in wicker baskets which drifted in from the main harbour overnight on the west end of Hong Kong island recently. Hong Kong's beaches may become a major marine environmental disaster zone if rapid action is not taken.

control zone was introduced, enjoy liberal exemption clauses allowing them to increase their discharges by up to 30 per cent.

Industrialists say such margins are necessary to allow them flexible production levels.

However, industrial waste is not the major source of pollution in most Hong Kong waters.

Problem

The main problem at many of the colony's beaches is caused by nearby luxury housing developments, according to Morton.

The developments release sewage, often from inadequate treatment plants, into the water

of bathing beaches over which the buildings command panoramic views, he said.

EPD director Stuart Reed recently announced plans to spend an annual one billion dollars (1.28 million US) over the next 12 years to build sewage treatment and disposal plants.

But Morton says that by 1989 Hong Kong will be producing so much waste that it already has unofficial plans to begin dumping the treated sewage nine miles out to sea.

Holmes confirmed there had been negotiations with China on the dumping of sewage from Hong Kong in its territorial

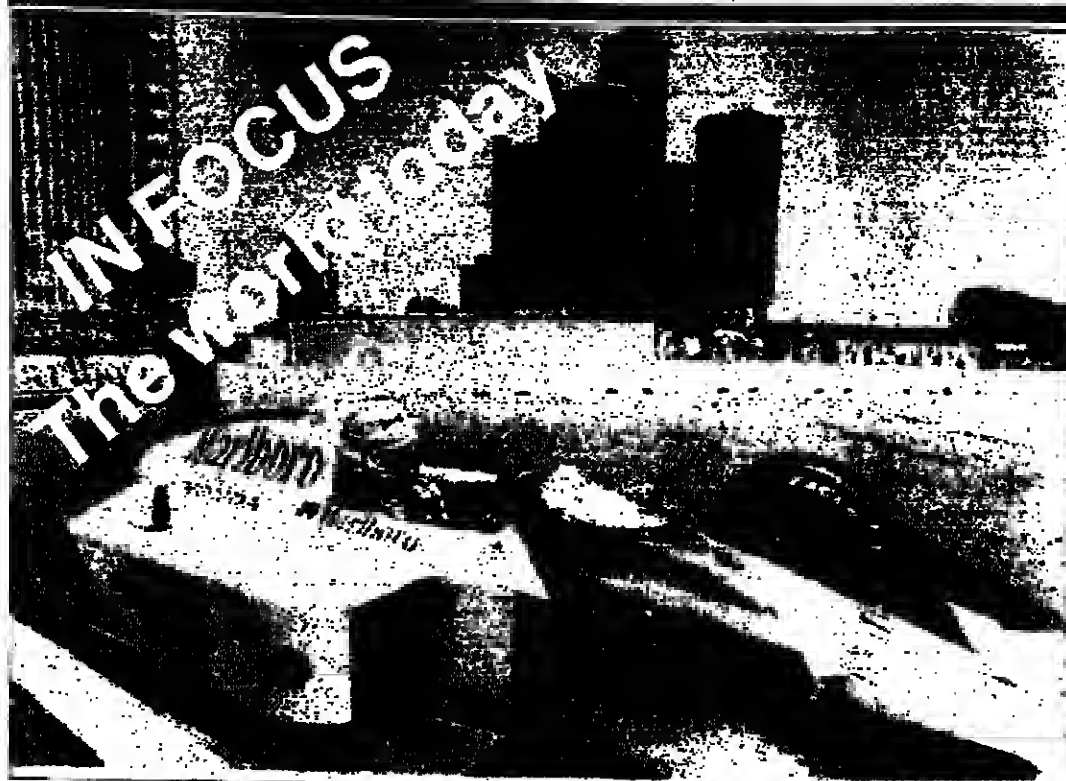
waters. He declined to say whether negotiations were still going on.

According to Morton, the EPD's plans will at most 'slow down the rate of decline in Hong Kong's water quality.' He doubted that the territory would have the political will or economic resources to do more.

He is pessimistic on the prospects for pollution control in the territory once China regains sovereignty over it in 1997.

'If China wants Hong Kong to develop as an area of industrial and economic growth, it can't be interested in environmental protection,' he said.

ملامعة الاصط



WINNING his sixth pole position of the year, Brazilian Ayrton Senna rounds Turn 11 en route to a qualifying time of 89.458 mph. Senna made the 2.5 mile downtown Detroit street circuit in 1.40.606 in his McLaren Honda Formula One on Saturday. (Rauter wirephoto)



PRESIDENT Francois Mitterrand (left) shakes hands with Defence Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement at Mount Valerien, west of Paris, on the occasion of the 48th anniversary of President Charles de Gaulle's call from London to resist the German occupation in 1940. (Rauter wirephoto)



POLICE arrest a protester during a demonstration by various unofficial debating clubs calling for a democratic electoral system and socialist pluralism near Moscow's Pushkin Square in Moscow. (Rauter wirephoto)



A MASKED student hurls a petrol bomb towards riot police at Yonsei University yesterday, where about 800 students held a two-hour rally demanding that former President Chun Doo Hwan be punished for his alleged corruption. (Rauter wirephoto)



PROTESTERS planning to demonstrate against the economic summit practise non-violent, passive resistance techniques in Toronto yesterday. The protesters wanted to march on the summit site and symbolically arrest the G-7 leaders for their crime against humanity. (Rauter wirephoto)



PHOTOGRAPHER Ahmet Atak writhes in pain after he was shot during an abortive attack by a lone gunman on Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, at the ruling Motherland Party annual congress in Ankara. (Rauter wirephoto)



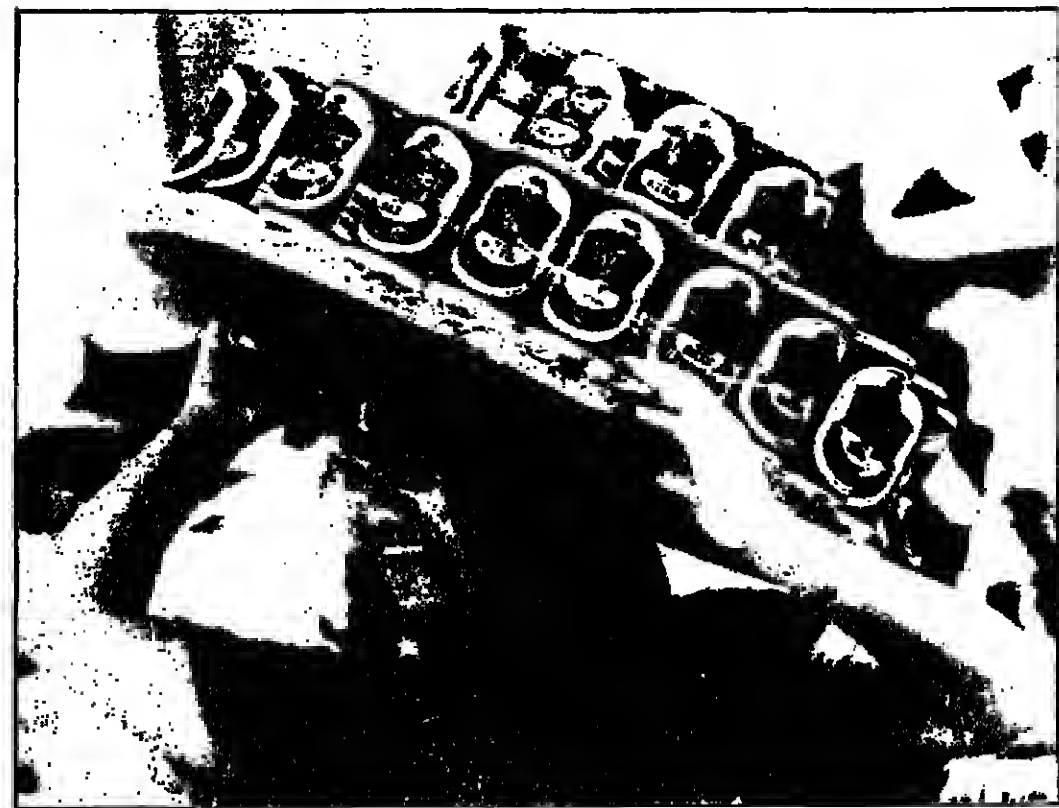
ABOUT 400 waiters and waitresses seen at the start of the annual Waiter's Race in Paris. The winner is the first waiter to cross the finishing line without spilling his order. (Rauter wirephoto)



IVAN CAPELLI of Italy being helped by an emergency crew after he crashed into the pit wall during a qualifying lap for the Detroit Grand Prix on Saturday. (Rauter wirephoto)



V.P. SINGH (centre) shows 'V' for victory sign after he defeated his rival by 110,000 votes in Allahabad for a Parliament seat. (Rauter wirephoto)



A LADY adjusting her beer-can hat while watching the Singapore Dragon Boat races yesterday at Marina Bay. (Rauter wirephoto)



US Secretary of State George Shultz (right), visiting Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte at the Walter Reed Army Centre in Washington. (Rauter wirephoto)



WEST GERMAN riot police carry off a rowdy British soccer fan after they closed a bar where about 75 fans were drinking. (Rauter wirephoto)

BUSINESS & FINANCE

KIO to go public on Madrid stock market

LONDON, June 19, (Reuters): The Kuwait Investment Office (KIO), the London-based investment arm of the Kuwaiti government, is planning to launch its first flotation on the Madrid stock market, the London Observer newspaper reported.

KIO officials were not immediately available to comment on the report, appearing in early editions of the Sunday newspaper.

The Observer said the issue will put a price tag of \$600 million on KIO's property interests in Spain.

A successful flotation would allow KIO to recoup its entire property investment cost, yet retain 66 per cent of its portfolio, which includes key commercial sites in Madrid and Barcelona, the Observer said.

KIO's main affiliate in Spain is paper manufacturer Torres Hostench. The Observer said KIO's most sensitive and strategic investment in Spain was a 13 per cent stake in Spain's largest bank, Banco Central, jointly held with two local enterprises.

"The proposed property sell-off on the Spanish Stock Market could be read as a KIO move to pacify the Spanish authorities and improve its public image by allowing the Spanish public to participate in the future growth of its shrewdly-purchased property assets," the Observer said.

KIO has substantial interests in Europe including a strategic 22 per cent stake in British Petroleum PLC (BP), Britain's largest firm.

Britain's Monopolies and Mergers Commission (MMC) is currently investigating the build-up of KIO's holding in BP.

Reagan pleased with latest trade figure

WASHINGTON, June 19, (AP): President Ronald Reagan says he was pleased with the latest narrowing in the US trade deficit and indicated that it would not be a "terrible calamity" if the deficit does not return to zero.

The monthly trade deficit shrank to \$9.89 billion in April from \$11.7 billion in March, the best showing in more than three years, the Commerce Department reported this week.

Asked during an interview on Friday on Cable News network's "Moneyline" if he thought the report signalled that the trade deficit problem for the United States was cured, Reagan replied:

"Well, it seems to be consistently going down now... and last month was the lowest that we've had."

"Actually, I think that is a reasonable trade deficit some place along the line," he said, adding that such a deficit "is not the terrible calamity that some people have pointed it out" to be.

Reagan left unclear whether he would like to see the deficit decline further. The trade deficit is the difference between imports and exports.

"We are the biggest exporter in the world. We are also the biggest importer in the world," he said.

If the United States started trying only to sell to foreign nations and not to buy goods from them, that could create "some kind of economic problems worldwide, and that would affect us."

Last year, the trade shortfall was a record \$170.3 billion.

Stocks touch post-crash highs

US trade trends boost optimism on Wall Street

NEW YORK, June 19, (Reuters): Fresh evidence of an improving US trade picture has boosted optimism on Wall Street, where stocks last week touched post-October crash highs.

The recovery has also spread to London where a rise to a post-crash high in the middle of the week was dented on Friday when new economic data showed inflation might be heading up.

Japanese investors, too, were buoyed by a stronger yen, an announcement on Thursday of higher-than-expected gross national product figures and reports that Japanese firms expected record profits in the financial year ending next March 31.

That combination sent the 225-share Nikkei average, a barometer of the world's biggest stock market, to all-time records

on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, ending at 28,342.46.

On foreign exchange markets, dealers adopted a cautious stance on Friday with the annual economic summit of seven major non-communist industrial nations opening in Toronto today.

"It's pretty quiet ahead of the summit meeting," a New York dealer said. "People expect some kind of interest rate adjustment after the G-7 nations meet and they don't want to position themselves too aggressively before they see what happens."

Concerns
In the US, as the Nov 1 presidential election edges closer, some news concerns about the candidates and their policies could sidetrack the Wall Street rally, analysts said.

American inflation worries,

too, brought on by possible higher agricultural produce prices stemming from a major drought hitting the Midwest farm belt, have given room for pause. But for now those worries seem to be getting played down and they could be countered by lower world oil prices.

Though the Dow Jones Industrial Average went up by just 2.31 points last week to 2,104.02, that small rise managed to carry forward a rally that has lifted it almost 200 points since May 23. A 37-point sell-off on Thursday took some of the lustre off a midweek climb to 2,131.40, the highest close since the crash.

The Dow soared 25 points on Tuesday after news that the US trade deficit fell to \$9.89 billion in April. The gap was more than one-third less than levels seen in late 1987.

Setbacks in the US trade performance last autumn were linked to the crash, and a weakening of the dollar. So the improvement was welcome news on Wall Street.

"This is very bullish for both the stock and bond markets," said Jeremy Siegel, professor of finance at the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School. "The trade deficit is turning around, which means that the dollar doesn't have to decline any further." He added that, barring an unexpected turn, the lows for the dollar were probably seen in December.

Cautious
Over the long period of dollar weakness, foreigners have become very cautious about investing in the US even though bond yields are much higher here than in other countries," said

James Solloway, chief economist at Argus Research Corp.

Now, he says, "with the dollar showing good strength for the past month and a half it may not only be possible for foreign investors to invest here and get a good current return but also make some money on currency translations."

In fact, he says the process could turn into a circular affair with foreign purchases of US stocks and bonds pushing the dollar up and that in turn attracting more investment.

The dollar closed in New York on Friday at 1.7495 West German marks, 125.75 Japanese yen and \$1.7835 to the pound sterling. Since recent lows in mid-April it has put on almost 10 pence and two yen and come down from just over \$1.90 against the pound.

US will not curb farm exports, says Bush

ANDREW, ILL., June 19, (Reuters): Vice-President George Bush has promised drought-stricken farmers that President Reagan will not impose export restrictions if there are food shortages from potentially the worst dry spell in the United States since the great depression.

Sitting with farmers and Agriculture Secretary Richard Lyng on bales of hay among stunted corn stalks in this sun-baked, farm belt state, Bush said that the subject of embargoes and export restrictions came up at a meeting with Reagan in the White House on Friday.

"We are not going to have embargoes," Bush promised a concerned farmer who said the drought was causing high prices and low supplies and who feared another grain embargo like the one during Jimmy Carter's

administration against the Soviet Union.

The secretary (Lyng) and the President and I literally discussed this yesterday in the Oval Office — obviously this is a presidential decision — but we are not going to disrupt our reclaiming of international markets by embargoes," he said, adding it would be a "stupid" move.

Lyng repeated there would be "no government restrictions on exports" and said he wanted to give that assurance to "Japanese and European buyers."

In Springfield, Illinois, after appearing at the Republican state convention, Bush visited a 2,400-acre corn, soybean and alfalfa farm to lend a sympathetic ear to the farmers' problems, but he and Lyng offered them only that — sympathy and not what they needed — rain.

Japan to boost aid to debtor nations

TORONTO, June 19, (UPI): Japan said today it will boost its aid to Third World debtor nations by \$50 billion over five years and provide immediate debt relief to 17 of the poorest African and Asian debtor nations.

At a briefing before the start of the Toronto economic summit, Michihiko Kunihiro, chief cabinet councillor for external affairs, said the new aid programme will be more than double the volume of Japanese aid to debtor nations in the past five years.

Japan in recent years has come under increasing criticism for failing to assume a greater role in easing the \$1.2-trillion Third World debt. US officials reportedly want Japan — which enjoys a \$96.5-billion trade surplus — to provide greater aid to strategically located Third World nations. Such action is seen as an alternative to boosting military spending.

Japan's \$10 billion in aid for 1988 already leads the world among donor nations. But the economic giant spends only about 0.30 per cent of its Gross National Product on aid compared to an average of 0.35 per cent among the advanced industrialised democracies.

About \$1 billion in relief will come from a programme of stretching out debt payments on \$5.5 billion in loans provided to 17 of the poorest nations since 1978, Kunihiro said.

Contributions
"These are the countries that are really suffering," he said. "Unless the burden is lifted they have no hope of repaying the debt."

In addition, Kunihiro said Japan's contribution to Third World debtors will increase in proportion with growth in Japan's economy.

Earlier, Canadian officials said Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, responding

to an invitation from Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, will lead a discussion about newly industrialised countries of Asia at the economic summit.

Officials told reporters the invitation was issued during a bilateral meeting earlier in the day between the two statesmen.

In that meeting, which explored the summit agenda and several bilateral issues, Takeshita suggested the meeting should concentrate on the economic policies of the world's major industrialised countries, and win endorsement from each of the seven summit partners for multilateral trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The Japanese leader also urged Mulroney to raise the problem of newly industrialised countries in Asia, which include Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan, whose trade surpluses threaten a global move toward more liberalised trade.

Plans to tap the world's biggest gasfield

Qatar starts \$1.3 billion project

DOHA, June 19, (Reuters): Two huge platforms will soon rise above the sea off the Gulf state of Qatar as the emirate starts a \$1.3 billion project to tap the biggest gasfield in the world.

But Qataris know the gas genie will not return this state of nearly 400,000 people to the wealth of the oil boom years.

Rather, it will enable Qatar to provide a legacy for the 21st century and beyond, creating the basis of industrial wealth for the days when the oil runs out.

"Natural gas is for the future," said Jaber Al Marri, head of the Qatar General Petroleum Corporation (QGPC).

Drilling
"We hope to start drilling on Aug 15," he told Reuters.

Developing the non-associated gas — gas which is not part of an oilfield — from the 6,000 sq km (3,600 sq mile) north field lying up to 80 kms (50 miles) north of Qatar, is one of the last multi-million dollar projects in the Gulf.

In the late '70s huge oil revenues transformed Doha, the emirate's capital, from a middle of dusty streets and desert shacks to a gleaming modern city, with high-rise buildings and luxury hotels lining the waterfront.

A decade ago the Qataris planned to raise millions of dollars in export earnings from the field, but the plans stalled due to uncertainty over oil and gas prices and lack of commitment from

foreign buyers.

Now plans to sell the gas abroad have been put on the back-burner as Qatar instead looks towards the field as a means of building industrial wealth within its own borders.

Utilised
"Surplus gas might be utilised in a methanol plant or in an aluminium smelter... we are planning to expand our existing petrochemical and fertiliser plants, which require additional gas," Al-Marri said.

Qatar also has plans for new power and water desalination plants as existing ones are running near full capacity.

All these new expansion plans are linked to the development of the gasfield.

The north field holds as much as 380 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, more than the proven gas reserves of the whole of Western Europe. The first phase for developing the field is due to come on stream by 1990, producing 800 million cubic feet a day.

By then Qatar's consumption will reach 600 million cubic feet a day, leaving 200 million cubic feet daily for development projects.

Abandoned
Initial plans to reinject the gas into its oilfields to push out the oil at a faster rate and to create a strategic reserve have been abandoned.

Qatar, a small member of

OPEC with an output quota of 299,000 barrels of oil a day, has been hard hit by the fall in oil prices since 1985.

Government spending and imports were cut, local economic and banking activities slowed down as oil revenues fell from \$3.2 billion in 1985 to about \$1.5 billion in 1987.

The government is at least seven months behind in payments to contractors and the budget is running a deficit for the third year, which could be as high as 6.1 billion Qatari riyals (\$1.68 billion) in 1988, bankers said.

The plunge in oil revenues could lead Qatar to tap international financial markets for the first time to finance part of the first phase of the field's development.

Bankers say Qatar was expected to borrow between \$500 million and \$600 million from international markets.

Revenue
The QGPC is now funding the project with revenue from 30,000 barrels a day of oil set aside for the scheme. It is expected to reach a decision on the future financing of the field within two months with its adviser First Boston Corporation from the United States.

But financing aside, Qatar's unseemly bonanza is expected to last more than 200 years and will assure the emirate of wealth for decades ahead when the oil runs out.

Poor Africans look to G-7 summit for debt relief

NAIROBI, June 19, (AP): The leaders of Africa's poorest countries are eagerly awaiting the outcome of the economic summit in Toronto, hoping the world's most industrialised nations will pledge to ease the Third World's growing debt.

Members of the 50-nation Organisation of African Unity, representing \$50 million largely impoverished people, collectively owe Western creditors about \$200 billion in debts. They are spending an increasing amount of their shrinking export income in repayments.

Peace
"In the global village, it is not possible for a minority of northeners to control the wealth of the world and hope to live in peace. Sooner or later it is going to explode," former Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere told a news conference in Rome.

The leaders of Britain, Canada, France, Italy, Japan, the United States and West Germany — the world's most industrialised nations and major creditors to Africa — started their 14th annual economic sum-

mit in Toronto today.

Nyerere, chairman of a commission set up in 1986 to promote economic co-operation between Third World countries, urged the wealthy powers of the world to defuse what he called the "poverty bomb" by writing off the debts.

Surging
"These official debts should be cancelled by 100 per cent," he said, echoing the view held by most African leaders. "We sell cheap and we buy dear all the time... Two tons of cotton this year costs the same as one ton last year. This is absurd. This is criminal. It is actually a form of stealing."

Debt service repayments, up from \$10.9 billion in 1980 to more than \$16 billion last year, sap much of Africa's export earnings at a time when costs for oil and raw material imports are surging.

As causes for the growing debts, African economists cite foreign-dictated prices for their exports, calamities such as drought and civil wars, and rampant government corruption and

economic mismanagement in their countries.

"A typical basket of African exports now buys one-third fewer needed imports than it did 10 years ago," said Moeen Qureshi, a senior vice president of the Washington-based World Bank. "If oil exports are excluded, the loss of purchasing power climbs to 50 per cent."

The United Nations estimated 1986 cuts in African commodity prices, coupled with debt servicing, cost this continent \$34 billion, while only \$18 billion in loans and development aid were pumped into the countries.

Explore
West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl on Friday said the summit should explore ways of easing the debts of developing nations, especially African countries.

Earlier, French President Francois Mitterrand appealed to the summit members to follow his government's example of cancelling a third of the debts owed by sub-Saharan African countries.

In Washington on Thursday,

the World Bank received an anti-poverty petition signed by 777 lawmakers from Australia, Britain, Canada, the United States and West Germany. The document urged the Bank to make its anti-poverty programme more effective and to make grants, not loans, available to the impoverished nations.

Bankrupt
"This would not then place on the world's poorest countries the burden of having to repay additional aid loans well into the next century," the legislators said.

While many African countries are virtually bankrupt, they have resisted demands by a few leaders to stop all loan repayments, fearing the West will retaliate by cutting trade and halting future credit.

All this has meant African leaders must slash spending on badly needed social programmes for education, health care and housing.

Many Africans complain they are, as a result, worse off than they were under European colonial rule.

World Business Summary

PEMEX to launch new exploration drive

MEXICO CITY, June 19, (Reuters): Mexico's state oil company will have to launch a new push for exploration in the next few years and make more use of innovative recovery techniques, the company's director-general said yesterday. Francisco Rojas, director-general of Petroleos Mexicanos (PEMEX) the state oil monopoly, said the company will have to increase refining capacity by 37 per cent by the end of the next decade to meet rising internal demand.

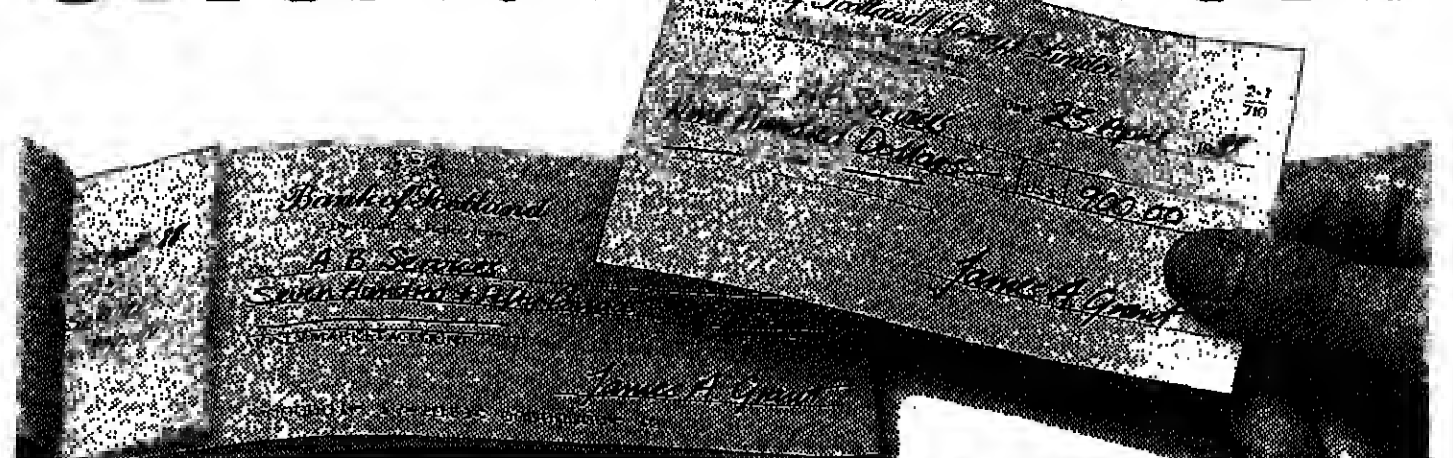
He said PEMEX will expand its refineries at Salina Cruz and Tula and must begin construction of a new refinery in 1993 or 1994. He said Mexico has abundant oil reserves, but PEMEX must act to maintain production potential. "Mexico has invested enormous resources in building the fourth largest oil and petrochemicals industry in the world," said Rojas, speaking in Salina Cruz, in the southern state of Oaxaca, in a speech marking PEMEX's 50th anniversary. He said PEMEX will invest in development wells in several new, promising zones. "PEMEX must... consolidate by making its production of basic products more efficient and giving priority to more profitable products," he added. Rojas said PEMEX is pursuing an internationalisation policy which would distribute oil products with foreign refiners. One such deal is being negotiated with the Spanish oil company Repsol.

US lawmakers call for quick drought relief aid to farmers

WASHINGTON, June 19, (Reuters): US lawmakers on Friday called for quick action to aid farmers hit by the worst drought in America's farmbelt since the devastating dust bowl days of the 1930s. But as senators and congressmen warned that action was needed now to save farmers threatened with economic ruin, an administration official said some drought relief may have to wait until harvest time. "To get the full economic impact (of the drought) in any part of the country you almost have to go to the harvest period," US Agriculture Secretary, Richard Lyng told a congressional hearing on the drought. He added, "We will be prepared to consider at that time what sort of economic assistance might be needed." Lyng and Vice-President George Bush, appointed by President Reagan to coordinate the administration's actions, plan to tour the worst-hit areas of the drought this weekend. Weather forecasts for the next 10 days predict only scattered rains — not enough to change the situation. The drought threatens to sharply cut into this year's US harvest of wheat, corn, soybeans and a host of other crops ranging from strawberries to cotton. Lyng said until the Agriculture Department gets a full assessment of the severity of the crop damage, the agency will focus on helping livestock producers find feed for their animals, and assisting Congress in preparing an economic assistance package.

Livestock pastures from the Central Plains to the south are in poor condition due to the lack of rain, causing a shortage of animal feed in some areas. But some farmers need aid immediately, said Vermont Democratic senator Patrick Leahy, chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee.

OFFSHORE IN JERSEY



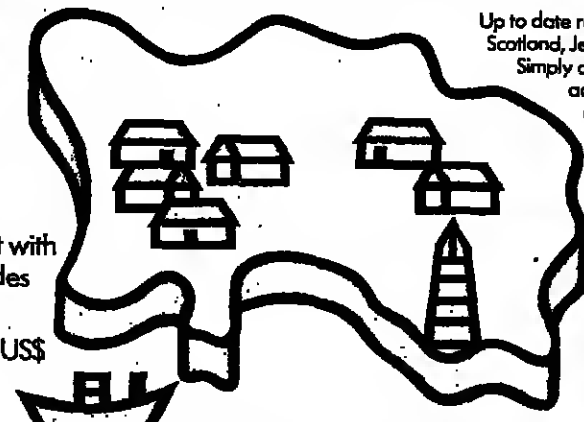
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A FRIEND FOR LIFE

Toronto economic summit opens

G-7 nations likely to promise Third World debt relief

TORONTO, June 19, (Agencies): Under siege-like security, Canada's Prime Minister Brian Mulroney today welcomed leaders of major industrial powers to an economic summit which promises some debt relief to the poorest Third World countries.

The US President, Reagan and French President, Mitterrand, were the last to arrive in this handsome — and heavily guarded — city of Lake Ontario for a three-day meeting that will review disputes and weak points underlying their generally strong economies.

Alert
Summit-eve security jitters increased yesterday when police, alert for any potential terrorist threat, arrested an Irishman said to be in Canada on an expired visa.

There was hope as summit business was about to begin that basic agreement could be reached in Toronto on a plan for relief of staggering indebtedness among Third World nations in sub-Saharan Africa.

But summit officials said little else was expected by way of major economic policy decisions.

British officials said Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, the senior leader present with nine years in office, was to lead off the first working summit session at 1900 GMT with a sweeping discussion of how Western economies should prepare for the 1990s and a review of problem areas including the debt issue, disputes over farm subsidies and trade issues.

Agreement was the first order, however, as host Prime Minister, Brian Mulroney, and a killed, scarlet-jacketed honour guard of

Canada's 48th highlanders greeted in Toronto's civic centre each arriving delegation from the United States, Britain's France, West Germany, Italy, Japan and the European Economic Community.

Deployed
The pretty pomp, and the business was unfolding within a cocoon of steel security like nothing this normally safe and orderly city has ever seen.

Sharpshooters deployed on rooftops and a helicopter-borne anti-terrorist squad stood by as Mulroney presided over a series of welcoming ceremonies in a square outside Toronto's City Hall for the arriving leaders.

The glass and steel conference hall where the leaders were meeting was encircled by wire fences, concrete barricades and hundreds of Royal Canadian mounted police. Only those wearing special plastic identity cards including a photograph could get through the multiple cordons.

Security officials said extra precautions were taken for Reagan, Thatcher and Japan's Prime Minister, Noboru Takeshita.

Honour

To the skirl of bagpipes, a military guard marched into the square to honour the first arrival, Jacques Delors of France, the President of the European Community Commission.

A band saluted Delors with a fragment of Beethoven's 9th symphony, the "ode to joy", adopted by the EEC as an anthem.

Following Delors was Italian Premier Ciriaco de Mita, Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, British Prime Minister Thatcher, French



Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney (left) greets Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita as they meet for private discussions before the economic summit. (Reuters wirephoto)

President Francois Mitterrand and the US President Reagan. Flags of Britain, Canada, France, West Germany, Italy, Japan, the United States and the EEC fluttered in the breeze atop

the 1960s building. Two curved steel and glass towers soaring against the blue, sunny sky framed the domed council chamber. The leaders do appear anxious

to assist the poorest, sub-Saharan African nations with concessions on their debt, following a British initiative at last year's Venice summit.

The British proposed writing off some aid loans, longer repayment and concessional interest rates. French President Mitterrand has now proposed writing off one-third of the debt of the poorest nations.

Japan said yesterday it would offer grants of \$5.5 billion to help 41 nations pay their debt. It has a law forbidding straight write-offs, which are also opposed as setting a bad precedent by the United States.

The poverty-laden African states owe less than \$200 billion out of \$1.2 trillion owed by all the Third World.

Proposals

The US summit "shopping list" also includes proposals for accords to make it harder for drug traffickers to launder their money around the globe and to see that hijacked airliners, once landed, would never be allowed to take off.

Delegates say, however, that on another issue, Reagan's wish to have all farm subsidies scrapped by the year 2000, the Americans will find the West Europeans markedly cool.

The European Economic Community agrees that subsidised surpluses dumped on world markets are bad for farmers in poorer regions but say a system involving payouts worth up to \$200 billion a year cannot be dismantled so quickly.

"Abolishing subsidies would turn the countryside into a desert with no young people. We would be left with Indian reservations of the elderly," Delors said before coming to the summit.

Maritime body calls to boost merchant fleets

SHARJAH, June 19, (Reuters): The Arab League's maritime organisation urged member states today to adopt a far-reaching strategy for expanding merchant fleets.

The Arab Academy of Maritime Transport (AAMT) voiced concern that Arab vessels were transporting only between three and 3.5 per cent of total Arab foreign trade.

Director-general Abdul Wahab Al Diwani said the academy had prepared a study of a meeting of Arab transport ministers in Tunis this month, the official emirates news agency WAM reported.

Diwani said the study, entitled "Towards a maritime strategy until 2000," would ask governments to expand fleets through increasing funds and encouraging projects by granting loans and other facilities.

He said it recommended greater co-operation among Arab states, especially regional groupings, to set up joint fleets.

Indonesia plans to expand petrochemical industry

JAKARTA, June 19, (Reuters): Indonesia's rapidly expanding petrochemical industry will get \$4.5 billion in new investment by 1992, Industry Minister Hartarto said.

He said seven projects worth \$773 million were under construction and another 14 projects worth \$3.81 billion were planned for operation by 1992.

"In a relatively short time Indonesia will have sophisticated in the strategic petrochemicals industry," he told reporters after a meeting with President Suharto yesterday.

Make up
Indonesia is moving into oil products and petrochemicals to make up for falling crude oil revenue.

Mines and Energy Minister Gijang Kartasasmita said earlier this month that Indonesia wanted to end all crude exports eventually.

"We are putting more emphasis on value added," he said. "Eventually we will only produce and export oil products rather than crude oil."

Hartarto said 53 petrochemical factories were now operating in Indonesia.

Two big oil-related projects have been announced recently. Foster Wheeler Energy, a British subsidiary of the US-based Foster Wheeler Corporation, said last week it had received approval from the state oil company, Pertamina, to build a 100,000 barrel-a-day refinery in Jayapura.

The refinery would export all its products and increase Indonesia's current total capacity of 903,000 barrels a day by more than 10 per cent, company officials said.

Project
Pertamina this year began processing 10,000 to 20,000 barrels a day of Malaysian crude. Until last year, Jakarta was shipping some of its crude to neighbouring Singapore, a major refining centre.

The other big oil-related project announced this year was a \$914 million factory producing petrochemicals for plastics.

KD deposit rates little changed

KUWAITI dinar deposit rates were little changed yesterday in quiet trading.

There was little interest in the short dates, where overnight funds were offered at par to one per cent from five per cent offers on Saturday, when an influx of customer funds jolted them from last week's 10 per cent highs. Spot rates were pushed to Saturday's 5-1/2, 4-1/2 per cent.

The fixed periods were slightly easier in the one through three-month periods at 6-1/2, 1/4 per cent from Saturday's 6-5/8, 3/8 per cent and steady in the longer periods at around 6-3/4, 3/8 per cent.

The Central Bank kept its dinar exchange rate unchanged since Wednesday, at 0.27690/00 to the dollar, while commercial banks quoted spot rates of around 0.27698/03.

Meanwhile, in Bahrain, Saudi riyal deposit trading was quiet yesterday, one day before payments settlement on the Saudi government's first bond issue was expected to drain up to a billion riyals (\$266 million) from the interbank market.

"I thought there might be some last minute panic, but the market was calm," said one dealer.

Short-term deposit rates started rising strongly about two weeks ago as news of the first bond issue leaked out. The Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency went ahead and invited bids for 1.5 billion riyals (\$400 million) of paper on June 11, with settlement on June 20.

The 1.5 billion riyal offering is part of a programme expected to reach up to 30 billion riyals (\$8 billion) before the end of the year.

Despite scheduled settlement on Monday of up to one billion riyals in bonds believed to have been taken up by banks, dealers reported little trade yesterday. Spot rates eased to 8-3/4, 1/4 per cent from 10, nine per cent the day before.

One, three and six months were all little changed at a uniform 7-5/16, 1/16 per cent. One-year funds were also little changed at 8-1/2, 1/4 per cent.

The spot riyal firmed to 3.7493/98 to the dollar from 3.7497/500 on Saturday.

The tenders summarised below are invited by the Central Tenders Committee on behalf of Governmental Ministries and other concerned authorities. The relevant documents may be obtained from the office of the Central Tenders Committee during office hours against payment of non-refundable fees as shown therein. Unless otherwise stipulated all relevant offers shall remain valid for a period of 90 days with effect from the closing date.

Tender No. 8/88/88
Tender's internal No. 945/88
Concerned party: Municipality of Kuwait
Requirements: Supply of stationery
Relevant fee: KD20/-
Initial guarantee: 5 per cent of offers value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Tuesday 17.7.88

Tender No. PT/28/88/88
Tender's internal No. 948/88
Concerned party: Ministry of Education
Requirements: Supply & installation of theatre chairs
Relevant fee: KD20/-
Initial guarantee: 2 per cent of offers value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Tuesday 19.7.88

Tender No. 9/88/88
Tender's internal No. 949/88
Concerned party: Municipality of Kuwait
Requirements: Supply of nylon bags for garbage
Relevant fee: KD20/-
Initial guarantee: KD500/-
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Tuesday 19.7.88

Tender No. MEW/22/4/183/87/88
Tender's internal No. 943/88
Concerned party: Ministry of Electricity & Water
Requirements: Repair & maintenance of precast ground (15 million gallons) & fresh water reservoir
Relevant fee: KD30/-
Initial guarantee: 2-1/2 per cent of offers value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Tuesday 2.8.88

Qualified Tenderers:
1. Moh'd Abdul Mohsen Al-Khurafi
2. Al-Hani Construction & Trdg. Co.
3. Al-Ahmadieh Contg. & Trdg. Co.
4. Boodal Construction Co.
5. United Buildings Co.
6. General Syndicate Trdg. Co.
7. Ali Al-Ghimani Est.
8. United Gulf Construction Co.
9. Al-Hamra Kuwait Co.

The Gulf Bank weekly market review
KD rate slightly easier against dollar

Kuwaiti dinar
Based on last week opening middle market foreign exchange rates, the Kuwaiti dinar rate was slightly easier against US dollar ending the week at 276.95 fils compared with its week before last closing of 275.75 fils.

Against the pound sterling, the dinar was higher ending the week at 497.74 fils compared with its week before last closing of 499.11 fils. The dinar was higher against the Deutsche mark ending the week at 158.12 fils compared with its week before last closing of 160.07 fils.

The dinar was also higher against the Swiss franc ending the week at 189.17 fils compared with its week before last closing of 189.96 fils. As against the Jordanian dinar, the KD was slightly higher ending the week at 766.11 fils compared with its week before last closing of 766.61 fils. The KD was mostly unchanged against the GCC currencies.

US dollar
The dollar reached its highest levels in seven and a half months against other major currencies last week especially against the mark and sterling but not the yen following the release of US trade deficit for April which showed a larger than expected narrowing to \$9.89 billion on seasonally adjusted basis from a revised \$11.70 billion for March.

Prior to that the dollar drew support from Fed Vice-Chairman Manual Johnson comments that fundamentals generally supported some firming in the dollar. The market sentiment has acquired growing bullishness towards the dollar as the April trade report reflected a consistent pattern of improvement with US imports falling by a larger 6.4 per cent than the exports drop of 2.5 per cent.

Rising market speculation that interest rates in Germany and Japan might rise on fast growing monetary aggregates and rising inflationary pressures besides fear of central bank intervention especially in support of the mark dogged the dollar. The market is awaiting the outcome of the G-7 summit in Toronto, Canada on any co-ordinated moves in that direction.

Japanese yen
The yen was largely steady against the US dollar locked in a tight trading range. It opened the week at 125.10/20, eased to 126.50/55 yen on firm US dollar benefiting from improved US April trade deficit before ending at 125.72/77 yen against its week before last closing of 124.80/90 yen. The yen is expected to maintain its firm tone encouraged by steady and strong domestic economic growth.

The yen strength was reinforced by news that Japan's GNP rose by a real 2.7 per cent in first quarter of 1988 from fourth quarter of 1987 recording an annualised rate of 11.3 per cent being its highest annual rate in 10 years on strong private spending and increased business investment. In the second quarter the pace of economic growth might slightly be slower on weaker growth in the housing sector and lower Japanese exports.

The yen-dollar is likely to remain in its present trading range of 124/126.5 unless new developments force a departure.

Deutsche mark
Against the background of a stronger dollar the mark further weakened to open the week against US dollar at 1.7225/35 marks and to end sharply lower at 1.7490/95 though it reached during the week the lows of 1.7530/40 marks, against week before last closing of 1.7200/05 marks. Fears of concerted central bank intervention supported the mark.

The Bundesbank so far has been detected to intervene in the open market. The Bundesbank reportedly signalled that it did not favour any further rise in the US unit. Speculation surfaced that the Bundesbank would raise its securities repurchase rate to 3.50 per cent next Tuesday from 3.25 per cent to support the mark.

Pound sterling
The pound sterling weakened last week following the release of a much smaller than expected US trade deficit in April. Sterling was one of the chief victims of improved sentiment for the dollar, as it had earlier been one of the principal beneficiaries during the long

period of currency market disenchantment with the dollar. News that Britain's current account was in deficit by £2.8 billion in the first quarter of the year, twice the size of the previous quarter's shortfall, dulled prospects for a sterling's bounce.

The pound opened the week at \$1.8160/70 and closed lower at 1.7830/40 compared to its week before last closing at \$1.8170/80. The pound is likely to ease against the US dollar, in case the dollar firms next week after the G-7 summit.

French franc
The French franc opened the week against the US dollar at 5.8170/00 francs and closed sharply lower at 5.8960/90 francs compared to its week before last closing at 5.8085/15 francs. French Finance Minister Pierre Bergevoy said that there was room for further French interest rate cut.

French industrial production fell 0.9 per cent in April, after being unchanged in March. May retail prices rose a provisional 0.2 per cent of 0.3 per cent giving a year-on-year figure of 2.5 per cent or 2.6 per cent after a 0.5 per cent rise in April. French official gold and foreign exchange reserves rose 1.55 billion francs in May to 393.49 billion francs from 391.94 billion in April.

Swiss franc
The Swiss franc opened the week against the US dollar at 1.4400/10 francs and closed lower at 1.4540/50 francs compared to its week before last closing of 1.4380/90 francs.

World stocks
Wall Street stock prices fluctuated last week, receiving a strong boost from better than expected trade data which supported a firmer dollar and bond market.

But stock prices fell from their highs as further commodity prices gains reignited investors' interest rate and inflation fears, before rallying later in the week as investors rolled over expiring stocks, futures and options contracts.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average opened the week at 2099, reached a post crash peak of 2131, before closing at 2104, recording a slight gain of 3 points over the week before last closing of 2101.

Precious metals
Precious metals prices weakened earlier in the week on the stronger US dollar following a much smaller than expected US April trade deficit. However, prices moved higher in the middle of the week on concern about a drought in the US Midwest, before ending lower.

Gold
Gold bullion prices opened the week at \$449.20/449.70 and ended the week higher at \$450.45/25 but recording losses of around \$6 compared to its week before last closing of \$456.50.

Silver
Silver bullion prices opened the week at \$7.03/7.05 and closed higher at \$7.09/7.11 but losing 6 cents on a average over the previous week's closing of \$7.15/7.17.

Platinum
Platinum prices opened the week at \$571.50/573.50 and closed higher at \$577.50/579.50, near its previous week's closing of \$578.580. Prices were boosted by news of unrest in South Africa on the 12th anniversary of the Soweto unrest.

Oil prices
Oil prices fell slightly in the world markets last week. Spot markets for North Sea Brent crude were between \$15.45-16.45 range, compared with \$15.95-16.45 range recorded the week before last. Prices for July cargoes were between \$15.55-16.45 range compared with \$16.10-16.70 range recorded the week before last.

In its semi-annual meeting held in Vienna last week, OPEC decided to extend its current 15.06 million BPD quota ceiling (excluding Iraq) to the end of this year.

Oil prices are likely to come under more pressures if some OPEC members did not stick to their output quotas.

offers value
Closing date: 12:00 noon, Tuesday 14.8.88

A pre-tender meetings shall be held on Sunday 17.7.88 at 10.00 a.m. in the Materials & Contracts Section -- Shuaiba Refinery, to visit the site and discuss the tender conditions.

The company representative shall not be allowed to attend the preliminary obligatory meeting if the bidder fails to notify the KNPC with the names and designations of his nominees according to the safety and security conditions applied in the refineries at least two days before the date of the said meeting.

(To be continued)

Provided by M.A. Mursi Umm Al Maradin International Est. P.O. Box 3654, Safat, Tel. 5337547/5337610.

KUWAIT						
BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
-NATIONAL BANK	0.890	0.890	0.890	0.880	785000	30
-GULF BANK	0.365	0.370	0.370	0.365	1300000	50
-COMMERCIAL BK	0.295	0.295	0.295	0.290	3150000	90
-AMLI BANK	0.310	0.315	0.315	0.310	1170000	44
-B.K.M.E	0.315	0.315	0.315	0.315	50000	1
-K.R.E.B.	0.380	0.395	0.395	0.395	30000	2
-BURJAN BANK	0.270	0.275	0.275	0.265	2670000	9
-K.F. HOUSE	0.435	0.435	0.440	0.435	590000	26
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
-KUT INV. CO.	0.174	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-K.I.T.C.	0.156	0.154	0.154	0.154	20000	1
-COM.FACILITIES	0.475	0.475	0.475	0.465	40000	1
-AMLIAN INV.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-I.F.A.	0.104	0.106	0.106	0.102	260000	7
-INV. PEARL KUT	0.108	0.110	0.110	0.108	2500000	27
INSURANCE SECTOR						
-KUT INSURANCE	0.690	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-GULF INSURANCE	0.330	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-AMLIA INS. CO.	0.530	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-MARBA INS. CO.	0.460	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
REAL ESTATE SECTOR						
-KUT ESTATE CO.	0.224	0.224	0.224	0.222	280000	7
-UNI R.E. CO.	0.114	0.114	0.114	0.114	140000	3
-WAT R.E. CO.	0.208	0.206	0.206	0.200	80000	3
-SALWAN R.E.	0.075	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-KUT PROJECTS	0.093	0.091	0.091	0.091	80000	2
-KUT R.E.I. CO.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
-NAT IND. CO.	0.480	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-KUT M.P. IND.	0.290	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-KUT CEMENT CO.	0.240	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-REF. IND. CO.	0.410	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-W.A.M.T. CO.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-GULF CABLE	1.050	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-K.P.W. IND. CO.	0.214	0.204	0.204	0.204	100000	2
-COMT.MARINE	0.350	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-K.S.H.REP.CO.	0.042	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
SERVICES SECTOR						
-OVERLAND TRANS	0.080	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-K.M.C. CO.	0.190	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-KUT HOTELS CO.	0.155	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-P.WAREHOUSING	0.176	0.174	0.176	0.174	180000	7
-COM.MKT.CMPX.	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.020	1120000	1
-MOBILE TELE.	0.400	0.400	0.400	0.395	450000	1
-KUT COMPUTER	0.190	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
FOOD SECTOR						
-LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.224	0.220	0.220	0.220	100000	1
-UNTD FISHERIES	0.156	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-UNTD POULTRY	0.228	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-KUT FOODS	0.290	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-AGRI. FOOD PRD.	0.150	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
NON-KUT SECTOR						
-B.H.N.INTER.BK	0.067	0.068	0.068	0.068	1040000	6
-B.M.M.EAST.BK	0.046	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-UNTD.GULF BK	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-COAST INVEST.	0.100	0.098	0.100	0.098	9360000	9
-A.E. INV. CORP.	0.056	0.056	0.056	0.056	800000	4
-FIRST.GULF BK	0.620	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-B.K.I.G.	0.080	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
KUWAIT STOCK EXCHANGE						
COMPANIES LISTED ON THE PARALLEL MARKET						
FINANCIAL SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
-PEARL INV.CO.	0.098	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-GULF INV.CO.	0.041	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-GULF INTL INS	0.009	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-ARAB INT CO.	0.055	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-SHARJAH INS	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-GULF UNION INS	0.070	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR						
-B-GULF MEDICAL	0.020	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-C-R.K.WHITE CHMT	0.022	0.021	0.021	0.021	320000	3
-D-AJMAN CEMENT	0.007	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-E-FUJAIRAH CENT	0.008	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-F-BAHRAIN CEMENT	0.016	0.016	0.016	0.016	560000	2
-G-GULF CEMENT	0.019	0.022	0.022	0.022	80000	2
-H-UMM ALQAINAH	0.022	0.022	0.022	0.022	80000	2

MARKET PLACE

Working hours 8.30 am - 12.30 pm, 4.30 - 8 pm.
Al Karnak Bldg., 2nd floor, Fahd Al Salem St., beside General Post Office.
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ملامحه الأصل

